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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 19 March 1954, at 2 p.m.

President:

Mr. MUNRO

(New Zealand)

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.520 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

54-07722

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET UNION

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to draw attention to the Journal of the United Nations of today's date. On page 6 of this Journal, it is stated:

(continued in English)

"The Council considered the sixty-seventh report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.432) which was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

"The recommendations contained in the report were unanimously adopted."

(continued in Russian)

That statement is not correct. The Soviet Union delegation abstained when the vote was taken on the report as a whole.

The PRESIDENT: I will see that that report is corrected.

EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION: REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/L.406 and Add.1, L.429, L.433) [Agenda items 3d, 4, 5] (continued)

The PRESIDENT: The Council will resume the examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration. When it adjourned yesterday, the Council was considering the report of the Drafting Committee on that Territory, and we had reached the section dealing with economic advancement.

We shall now proceed to the vote on paragraph 8 on page 6 of document T/L.433.

Mr. SINGH (India): Could we have a separate vote on the first two lines of paragraph 8, up to the words "of the Territory"?

The PRESIDENT: The paragraph will be voted upon in two parts, and we shall vote first on the two lines, beginning with the words "The Council" and ending with the words "of the Territory".

Paragraph 8, down to and including the words "of the Territory", was adopted by 9 votes to 2, with 1 abstention.

The remainder of paragraph 8 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now vote on the paragraph as a whole.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): On a point of order, could the President, before he puts the different paragraphs to the vote, ask the members of the Council whether they have any comments to make? We are discussing this report, we are not merely voting upon it, and it is rather embarrassing to have to break in when the President is putting a paragraph to the vote. Therefore, I would ask the President to ask the members, before he puts a paragraph to the vote, whether they have any comments to make or whether there are any requests for a vote in parts. When all the explanations and requests have been made, we could then vote. It must not be forgotten that I have to listen to an interpretation of the remarks made, and this interpretation usually lags a little behind the speaker. In most cases, the interpretation does not end when the speaker does, and I need a little time.

The PRESIDENT: I shall not ask anybody if he wishes to vote on the paragraphs. That is a matter for the members of the Council and they can apply. However, I will allow a reasonable interval to pass after I call for the paragraph so that if anybody desires that it be voted on in sections or wishes to comment on it, he can indicate that fact to me.

Paragraph 8 as a whole was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet Union delegation abstained in the vote on this paragraph because the first sentence which mentions progress is completely inconsistent with the actual facts. Moreover, the wording which calls upon the indigenous population to co-operate with the Administering Authority, to which I drew attention at a previous meeting, could lead to charges against the indigenous population that they are not implementing resolutions of the Trusteeship Council. The meaning of this co-operation was never made quite clear. It is for this reason that we abstained in the vote on the entire paragraph.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to consider paragraph 9 to which there are amendments proposed by the representative of Syria which are contained in document T/L.433, page 2.

The first amendment is to replace the words "to reserve to them the part which is theirs in the economic development of the Territory." by "to assure that they should play a full part in the economy of the Territory."

The second amendment proposes the addition of a new paragraph at the end of the section: Members of the Council have it before them and I do not propose to read it.

The amendments were adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 9 as amended was adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 10 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraphs 11 and 12 were adopted unanimously.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now consider paragraph 13.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I ask for a separate vote on the words, "The Council, noting with satisfaction the measures taken by the Administering Authority in respect of industrial development, as well as the extension of financial assistance to existing existing craft industries". I also propose that the second part be worded as follows, "recommends to the Administering Authority that it take steps to encourage the development of light industries with greater participation of indigenous inhabitants".

The amendment was adopted by 6 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

The first part of paragraph 13 ending with the word "industries" was adopted by 10 votes to 1 with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote the rest of the paragraph, commencing with the word "recommends" and ending with the words "indigenous inhabitants".

The second part of paragraph 13 as amended was adopted by 9 votes to 1 with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 13 as amended was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now proceed to consider paragraph 14.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): There is one aspect which I would like to draw to the attention of the Trusteeship Council. Before we start to vote on this question of forests, I should like to point out that paragraph 14 states that "the Council ... urges the Administering Authority to take all appropriate measures in respect of soil conservation and the protection of forests, in particular the classification of forests".

I wish to draw the attention of the Council to paragraph 3 of document T/L.429 which indicates that the Drafting Committee proposed, as a basis for the report on the French Cameroons, to take into consideration document T/L.406. Let us consider document T/L.406 and see what it says concerning forests. On page 23 of that working paper the following is stated:

"...the Administering Authority reported that the classification of forests...has unfortunately met with opposition on the part of the indigenous inhabitants and their representatives in the Territorial Assembly and that because of the opposition no forests have been classified since 1948."

Thus we can see that the population of the Trust Territory is opposed to the classification of forests. It is opposed to it because that measure would lead to the alienation of their lands. Consequently, paragraph 14 of the report of the Drafting Committee, document T/L.429, relating to forests, does not jibe with the section on forests contained in document T/L.406, which I have just read out. Paragraph 14 "expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will receive the full co-operation and support of the indigenous inhabitants in the implementation of these measures". This refers to measures which have been opposed up to now. This is the problem concerning the co-operation to which I objected previously when we were dealing with paragraph 8. Paragraph 8 said that it was necessary that there be co-operation between the indigenous inhabitants and the Administering Authority.

What sort of co-operation can there be between the indigenous inhabitants and the Administering Authority if the population opposes the classification of forests? In the report of the Drafting Committee we are expressing the hope that the Administering Authority will continue to classify forests. We are suggesting to and urging the Administering Authority to do something to which the population objects. We should particularly bear in mind the fact that it is the interests of the population which should be paramount in our minds and in our efforts.

Consequently, paragraph 14 is diametrically opposed to the wishes and the interests of the population of the Territory and my delegation categorically objects to the wording of paragraph 14 because it completely prejudices the interests of the population of the Territory. There has been no classification since 1948 because of this opposition, but now we are saying to the Administering Authority: we urge you to go on with the classification.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on paragraph 14 as contained in document T/L.429.

Paragraph 14 was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I would like to ask for an explanation. How are you going to make paragraph 14 jibe with that part of the report of the Council which deals with forests and which I read out? I do not know who can give me the explanation, but I would like to have an explanation as to how these two ideas can be reconciled. The report indicates that there is opposition to the classification, but paragraph 14, on which the Council has just voted, urges the Administering Authority to classify the forests. Will someone please explain to me where the consistency is between the two paragraphs?

The PRESIDENT: I am not disposed to ask the members of the Council to explain it. We shall now proceed to consider paragraph 15.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Who is the Rapporteur of this Committee? Let the member who was the Rapporteur explain it. I do not think you can by-pass my question so lightly, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT: If the Chairman of the Committee desires to reply, he has the right to do so.

Mr. ASHA (Syria): I think there is some sort of misunderstanding as regards what was written in the report and the views stated by the representative of the Soviet Union. The classification of forests is something on which the four members of the Committee were unanimous. There is nothing in it that will be injurious to the interests of the people. In fact it is for their own protection that the forests should be classified. It takes into consideration the question of which of these forests can be retained as forests, which can be alienated or cut down, and which can be developed for certain other purposes.

As Chairman of the Committee, I can assure the representative of the Soviet Union that this point was discussed at length, and that it was as a result of my proposal that this paragraph was worded in this manner. If I am wrong, I should like to ask the representative of France to correct me.

Mr. EGUIZABAL (El Salvador) (interpretation from Spanish): Inasmuch as a question has been put to the representative of France, I would prefer that he should give the reply. However, as regards the Drafting Committee, El Salvador was a member of it. As was stated by the representative of Syria, there was a long discussion on this problem and we agreed unanimously that it was in the interest of the indigenous inhabitants to have this programme. We also took into account what the Visiting Mission said. This is also contained in the working paper prepared by the Secretariat, which says the following:

"The deforestation which the 1952 Visiting Mission noted in certain areas of the Cameroons caused it deep concern. In its opinion, farmers should be compelled by strict regulations to improve their cultivation methods in steeply sloping areas. With regard to the classification of forests, the Mission expressed the hope, as the Trusteeship Council had done previously, that the Administration would take all useful steps to convince the indigenous populations of the need for extending the area of classified forests." (T/L.406, pages 23-24)

Taking this situation into account, the Drafting Committee unanimously approved this draft recommendation.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): These explanations have not convinced me in the least, and I must draw attention again to the fact that the recommendation just adopted by the Council is contradictory to and inconsistent with the aims, purposes and interests of the population. The Administering Authority reported that the classification of forests ...

The PRESIDENT: I must interrupt the representative of the Soviet Union. He is entitled to give an explanation of vote, and he has done so. I am not supposed to allow this debate. We shall now proceed.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): Point of order.

The PRESIDENT: There is no point of order. The Council will now proceed to the vote on paragraph 15.

Paragraph 15 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with no abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now take up paragraph 16.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have a proposal to add the following to paragraph 16:

"The Council recommends in this connexion that the Administering Authority take the necessary steps to assure the prevention of possible abuse of and prejudice to the land rights and interests of the indigenous population in carrying out the above registration."

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on the Soviet Union amendment, which is an addition to paragraph 16.

The amendment was adopted by 6 votes to 4, with 2 abstentions.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom): I should like briefly to explain my abstention in the vote. I have no doubt whatsoever that the Administering Authority, in carrying out registration of land, would in fact be guided primarily and essentially by considerations of the rights and interests of the inhabitants. But if the representative of the Soviet Union wishes to reassert this undoubted fact in the paragraph, my delegation has no objection.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on paragraph 16 as amended.

Paragraph 16 as amended was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I should like to explain my vote. I voted against the Soviet Union amendment and against the paragraph as amended, and I shall not vote in favour of the report of the Drafting Committee. I consider that the amendment proposed by the Soviet Union delegation and adopted by the Council constitutes an insult, and I take it as such. The procedure of registration is a judicial procedure, and I do not accept any injurious or insulting insinuations in respect of the French Administration.

Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand): I was not able to support the paragraph as amended because the addition proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union and adopted by the Council represented a point of view which was not expressed during the general debate and which, therefore, could not be given consideration by the Drafting Committee. In the view of my delegation, it is not established by the facts in this case.

Mr. LOOMES (Australia): I shall be very brief. I should just like to associate myself with the remarks of the representative of New Zealand. The same reasons guided my vote on the amendment and on the paragraph.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now take up paragraph 17.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I request the President to put this paragraph to the vote in parts, the first part to end with the words "of the indigenous inhabitants", and the second part to begin with the words "reaffirms its previous recommendation".

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on paragraph 17, in parts, and then as a whole.

The first part of paragraph 17 was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

The second part of paragraph 17 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 17 as a whole was adopted by 11 votes to none, with no abstentions.

Paragraph 18 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 19 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with no abstentions.

Paragraph 20 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with no abstentions.

Paragraph 21 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 22 I propose the deletion of the words "noting the progress achieved in the development of medical and health services". Further, after the words "Administering Authority", I propose the insertion of the words "substantially increase its budgetary allocations for the health needs of the Territory".

The PRESIDENT: Does the representative of the Soviet Union wish to have the rest of the paragraph deleted?

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): No, the rest of the paragraph would remain as it is.

The PRESIDENT: Representatives have heard the amendment proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union, namely, the deletion of the words "noting the progress achieved in the development of medical and health services", and the insertion, after the words "Administering Authority", of the words "substantially increase its budgetary allocations for the health needs of the Territory".

Mr. S.S. LIU (China): I propose that the amendment should be voted upon in two parts, dealing first with the suggested deletion.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will vote on the first part of the amendment, which is the deletion.

The first part of the amendment was rejected by 8 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now vote on the second part of the amendment, which is the insertion of the words "substantially increase its budgetary

The second part of the amendment was rejected by 5 votes to 4, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraph 22 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I propose that paragraph 23 should be voted upon in two parts, the first part beginning with the words "The Council" and ending with "and adult education", and the second part from "recommends" to the end of the paragraph.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will vote on paragraph 23 in two parts, as proposed.

The first part of paragraph 23 was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The second part of paragraph 23 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with no abstentions.

Paragraph 23 as a whole was adopted by 11 votes to none, with no abstentions.

Paragraph 24 was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 25 I propose the deletion of the words "to the extent possible".

The proposal was rejected by 6 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraph 25 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT: I now call the attention of the Council to the recommendation contained in paragraph 3 on page 1 of document T/L.429 to the effect that the Secretariat working papers (T/L.406 and T/L.406/Add.1) should be the basic text for the chapter on conditions in the Territory. We shall now vote on that recommendation.

The recommendation was adopted by 10 votes to 1,

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I propose that paragraphs 4, 6 and 7 also be voted upon.

The PRESIDENT: Even with the greatest desire in the world to be helpful in this matter, I cannot possibly see how we can vote on these paragraphs. We have adopted the report with amendments and that is completed. Paragraph 4 says that "the Committee drafted a number of conclusions and recommendations which it considered as reflecting the opinions of the Council as a whole and has annexed them to the present report". That is just a statement of fact. Paragraph 5 states that "the representative of Syria reserved the right of his delegation to propose amendments ...". He has done so. Paragraph 3 recommends to the Council that it should adopt the Secretariat working paper as the basic text. We have just done that. Thus I cannot see how I can possibly put these matters to the vote.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Let me explain. Paragraph 4 states that "the Committee drafted a number of conclusions and recommendations which it considered as reflecting the opinions of the Council as a whole ...". That is not correct and my delegation will vote against it. So you see, there is something to vote on.

Paragraph 6 states that "the Committee accordingly recommends to the Trusteeship Council that it adopt the working paper on conditions in the Cameroons under French administration (T/L.406 and Add.1) ...". We are also opposed to that.

The same thing applies to paragraph 7 which states that "the Drafting Committee decided not to formulate any draft conclusion or recommendation concerning their application to the Cameroons under French administration". We consider that action to be incorrect, are opposed to it and will vote against it.

The PRESIDENT: In effect we have actually voted on paragraph 6 a few minutes ago and the representative of the Soviet Union voted against it. The only thing I can do is to take note of the Soviet Union representative's remarks and they will be noted; but I cannot possibly put these matters to the vote.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, I demand that you put them to the vote. You do not have the right to refuse a vote when it is requested. I must say, in general, Mr. President, that if you are the President you are obliged not only to respect yourself/^{but} the members of the Council as well. If you do not allow members of the Council to speak -- and this refers/^{not only} to the representative of the Soviet Union but to other representatives around this table -- and if you refuse my request for a vote, then why are we sitting here? You can sit here alone, decide whatever you want to decide and take whatever votes you wish to take; that would be ample. That is dictatorship. I categorically object, Mr. President, to your refusing to take a vote on parts of this report.

The PRESIDENT: I am not disposed to take very much notice of those observations, but I shall put myself in the hands of the Council. The representative of the Soviet Union has asked me to put paragraph 4 to the vote. I shall submit to the will of the Council as to putting paragraph 4 to the vote. I shall read it out:

"In the light of the general discussion by the Council on conditions in the Territory, the Committee drafted a number of conclusions and recommendations which it considered as reflecting the opinions of the Council as a whole and has annexed them to the present report".

We have never put this sort of thing to the vote.

Mr. Krishna MENON (India): Mr. President, before you put this to the vote I would request you to take into consideration the procedure we are adopting. Whether a matter should be put to the vote or not is not a matter for us to decide; it is a matter entirely for the President to decide and I take it in that way. It is open to anyone to challenge your ruling and then a vote is taken on the President's ruling; otherwise we will get into a state of anarchy. I express no views on the merits of it.

The PRESIDENT: I am quite happy to adopt that position. I desire only to be fair in this matter. My ruling is that these matters will not be put to the vote. If anybody wants to vote against that ruling, of course he is at liberty to do so. Nobody has done so.

Mr. TSARAFKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Parts of a report and the whole report are put to the vote everywhere. This is the only time and the only body -- and only under your Presidency -- in which I have seen such a procedure take place. Mr. President, you do not have the right to make such a ruling; I do not understand this. I cannot see how you can refuse to take a vote on parts of a report.

The PRESIDENT: We have adopted the report, and I regret to say that the representative of the Soviet Union is displaying abysmal ignorance. I am not disposed to have the time of the Council wasted too much on this matter.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The representative of the Soviet Union would be completely right if we were in the sub-committee and if he were a member of the sub-committee. The members of the sub-committee had the right to ask for a vote paragraph by paragraph on all reports of the sub-committee, but we simply have to take up the report of the sub-committee as a whole and to take note of it; it is impossible for us to change it.

I do not think that the representative of the Soviet Union can complain of the Trusteeship Council's not voting paragraph by paragraph. It was up to the members of the sub-committee to ask, if necessary, a paragraph-by-paragraph vote -- but not here in the Council.

The PRESIDENT: In any case we are only adopting certain recommendations. We are adopting certain paragraphs separately. We have done this and that is the end of the matter. I have given my ruling.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We voted on separate parts of the report. The President has not put the report as a whole to the vote yet, so the question is not closed. The President has simply chosen paragraph 3 and put it to the vote. In addition to paragraph 3 there is paragraph 4, and I pointed out the reason why a vote was necessary on that paragraph. I said that that paragraph considers a number of conclusions and recommendations as reflecting the opinions of the Council as a whole. This is not the case; it does not reflect the views of the Council as a whole. In many cases the vote was divided by 6 in favour and 6 against. How can you say that this reflects "the opinions of the Council as a whole"? I therefore insist on a vote. On the basis of what rule of procedure does the President refuse to put these paragraphs to the vote?

The PRESIDENT: I have put the matter to the vote and we have adopted various recommendations. We have adopted the recommendations of the Committee, and I have followed the usual procedure which has been followed for years in the Trusteeship Council. I have now given my ruling. If any member of the Council desires to set aside that ruling, he is at liberty to do so; otherwise, we shall proceed to the next business.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The President has still not answered my question. On the basis of what rule of procedure did he act in refusing to put this to a vote when I asked that a vote be taken? The President is avoiding my question, and I would ask him for a reply.

The PRESIDENT: I am not proceeding any further in the matter. We shall now pass on to the next item on our agenda.

Mr. PIGNON (France)(interpretation from French): Before we do that, I should like to have it in the record that the French delegation did not take part any longer in the various votes on document T/L.429 as of the vote taken on paragraph 16 of this report.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 655 (VII) and 758 (VIII): HEARING OF PETITIONERS FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION: REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/L.406 and Add.1 and 2, L.430) [Agenda item 10]

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 6, on page 2 of the report of the Drafting Committee, document T/L.430, the Committee recommends that the passage set forth on pages 3 to 5 of that document should be included in the appropriate chapter of the Council's report to the General Assembly.

The Committee also recommends in paragraph 5 that the outline of conditions as set forth in document T/L.406 and T/L.406/Add.1, which has just been considered, should be supplemented by additional information as set forth in document T/L.406/Add.2. I understand that the representative of Syria desires to speak to the Council on this matter.

Mr. ASHA (Syria): All I wanted to do was to introduce the report, but the President has done very well. However, the Council will recall that the Drafting Committee on the Cameroons under French Administration was charged with the preparation, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 655 (VII) and 758 (VIII), of appropriate conclusions with respect to the questions raised by the petitioners from the Cameroons under French Administration before the Fourth Committee in 1952 and 1953. The Drafting Committee examined all relevant documentation on this question and, although it concluded that no specific reference had been made by the Council on this matter, general observations had been made by the Council in its general debate on the report on the Territory. Accordingly, the Committee decided to draft its conclusions and prepared a special section concerning General Assembly resolutions 655 (VII) and 758 (VIII), regarding the hearing of petitioners from the Cameroons under French Administration, for inclusion in the appropriate chapter of the report to the General Assembly. The President has already explained to the members of the Council the various items in the Drafting Committee's report. I have nothing to add.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put these two recommendations of the Drafting Committee to the vote.

The recommendations were adopted by 10 votes to 1.

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION: SIXTY-FIRST, SIXTY-SECOND, SIXTY-THIRD AND SIXTY-EIGHTH REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.416, L.417, L.423, L.434)

[Agenda item 4]

The PRESIDENT: Members of the Council will recall that yesterday we dealt with several of the reports of the Standing Committee on Petitions relating to the Cameroons under French Administration. I propose now to deal with the sixty-first report, document T/L.416. This report deals with thirteen petitions. It contains in its annex twelve draft resolutions proposed by the Committee. Concerning one petition -- the petition from Mr. Soulémanou, set forth

in document T/FET.5/184 and referred to in section VIII of the report -- the Committee states that it was unable to agree on a draft resolution and therefore has no proposal to submit to the Council. The Council will therefore proceed to vote on each of the draft resolutions contained in the annex, and, in respect to the petition set forth in section VIII, I shall put to the vote the proposal considered by the Committee but not adopted by it, the operative part of which is set forth on page 9 of the report.

We shall now vote on the resolutions set forth in the annex to document T/L.416.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to section VIII, where the Committee was unable to propose a draft resolution, and I again draw the Council's attention to page 9 of document T/L.416, where the operative part of the proposal considered by the Committee is set forth. I propose to put that to the vote of the Council.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The Standing Committee considers that no recommendation is required by the Council. My delegation feels that this is completely unsatisfactory. There is not a single word of condemnation of the arbitrary actions by Europeans which are mentioned in the petition; nothing is said about the unlawful seizure of land from the petitioners. Consequently, the draft resolution which is about to be put to the vote is completely unsatisfactory, because it does not take into consideration the interests of the petitioners. My delegation will therefore vote against it.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to vote on this proposal.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 votes against.

The PRESIDENT: We shall proceed to take another vote on this proposal.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 votes against. The proposal was not adopted.

Draft resolution IX was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution X was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution XI was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution XII was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution XIII was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote the recommendation contained in paragraph 4 on page 2 of document T/L.416, to the effect that the Council should decide that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolutions III-V and IX.

The recommendation was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I should like to point out that the text of the recommendation upon which the Council has just voted is not included in the French version of document T/L.416, which omits the introduction that appears on page 2 of the English version.

Mr. TARAZI (Syria) (interpretation from French): The representative of Belgium is quite correct in what he says, and I should like to add that in fact the French text begins with section III of the report.

I am addressing this remark to the Secretariat in order that the two texts may be brought into accord.

The PRESIDENT: I shall look into the matter, and the necessary corrigenda will be issued.

The Council will now vote separately on the ten draft resolutions contained in the annex to document T/L.417.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Before the President puts draft resolution II to the vote, I should like to point out that during its consideration of this matter in February the Standing Committee on Petitions addressed to the petitioner a prepaid telegram asking him whether he was satisfied with the compensation which he had received from the Administering Authority for the damages he had suffered. It would be interesting to know whether a reply has been received from the petitioner and, if not, what possible reason there could be for his failure to reply given the fact that almost two months have passed since the telegram was sent. The whole matter would be simplified if we could be told that a reply had in fact been received.

The PRESIDENT: Does any member of the Council desire to comment on the matter raised by the representative of the Soviet Union?

The SECRETARY: A telegram has in fact been sent, but so far there has been no reply from the petitioner.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Perhaps the Administering Authority could tell us something about the lack of a reply in this connexion?

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I learned for the first time today, on perusing this document, that a telegram had been sent, and therefore I have no details or additional information to give to the representative of the Soviet Union. There are many possible explanations, but they do not include that which the representative of the Soviet Union seems to have in mind, namely, that the Administration did not transmit the telegram. All explanations are possible save that one.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should just like to reply to the representative of France that I had absolutely nothing at the back of my mind when I asked my question. There were no implications of any sort.

The PRESIDENT: That is very desirable.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 6 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I should like to make the following observation as regards draft resolution VI. That draft resolution is completely unsatisfactory. It simply repeats the observations of the Administering Authority, completely ignoring the rights and interests of the indigenous African population.

It is the Trusteeship Council's duty to adopt decisions and recommendations which are designed to protect the interests of the indigenous inhabitants, particularly as regards the question of alienation of land. The Charter makes that duty quite clear.

Since there is nothing in draft resolution VI about the rights of the indigenous inhabitants, my delegation will vote against that draft resolution.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 6 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 6 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution IX was adopted by 4 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

Draft resolution X was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I now put to the vote the recommendation contained in paragraph 4 on page 2 of document T/L.417; namely, that the Council should decide that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolutions I-X inclusive.

The recommendation was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Trusteeship Council will now proceed to vote on the draft resolutions contained in the annex to the sixty-third report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.423).

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The Soviet Union delegation wishes to propose a draft resolution which would replace draft resolution I recommended by the Standing Committee on Petitions. Our text would, in effect, correct the steps which were taken by the Administering Authority. The Soviet Union representative submitted this draft resolution to the Standing Committee on Petitions. It reads as follows:

(continued in English)

"The Trusteeship Council,

"Having examined the petition (T/PET.5/211) from the Secretary-General of the Union des populations du Cameroun, in which it is reported that, in 1952, the Administration of the French Cameroons attempted to hinder Um Nyobé's journey to New York for an oral presentation of his petition to the United Nations, and that it hampered and in some instances prohibited the convening of rallies where Um Nyobé intended to give the local population an account of his mission to the United Nations and of the decision on his petition; and in which it is likewise reported that Um Nyobé and his supporters were subjected to persecution and attacks on the part of some Europeans and local residents,

"Recommends to the Administering Authority that it take the necessary measures to prevent any similar anti-democratic actions in the future, and that it likewise take measures to secure freedom of political activity for the indigenous population of the Trust Territory."

The Soviet Union draft resolution was rejected by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. SERRANO-GARCIA (El Salvador)(interpretation from Spanish): I should like to request a separate vote on paragraph 1 of draft resolution I.

The preamble to draft resolution I was adopted by 9 votes to none.

Paragraph 1 was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution I as a whole was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to draft resolution II on page 19 of document T/L.423.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The draft resolution which has been submitted to the Council by the Standing Committee on Petitions is unsatisfactory. Since in this draft resolution the position of the Trusteeship Council regarding the actions of the Administering Authority, which hinder the political activities of the people, is not stated at all, the draft is completely unsatisfactory, and my delegation will vote against it.

Mr. TARAZI (Syria)(interpretation from French): I should like a separate vote to be taken on paragraph 3 of draft resolution II, which begins "Invites the Administering Authority".

The PRESIDENT: That paragraph is numbered 2 in the English text. I shall now put it to the vote the first part of the draft resolution, beginning with the words "The Trusteeship Council" and ending with the words "the Fouban incident".

The first part of the draft resolution, down to and including the words "the Fouban incident", was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

Mr. PIGNON (France)(interpretation from French): I am sorry to interrupt the voting, but there is a difficulty. The French text does not coincide with the English text. In the French text, there are three paragraphs, but in the English text there are only two. I am convinced that the English text is the correct one, since the representative of the Standing Committee on Petitions who was at the meetings has informed us that paragraph 2 was deleted.

The PRESIDENT: I am informed that the English text is the correct one.

Mr. TARAZI (Syria)(interpretation from French): The explanation given by the representative of France is correct. Paragraph 2 was deleted by the Petitions Committee at the request of the Chairman of the Committee and with the agreement of the members.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote paragraph 2 of the English text of resolution II, which reads:

"Invites the Administering Authority, in view of the fact that the prohibition of the circulation of the second pamphlet is temporary, to inform the Council as soon as possible concerning the lifting of the temporary prohibition."

Paragraph 2 of draft resolution II was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote the whole resolution, as contained in the English text.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 10 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to draft resolution III.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The Soviet Union delegation proposes the following text in the place of that recommended by the Standing Committee on Petitions:

"The Trusteeship Council,

Instructs the forthcoming Visiting Mission to study all the questions raised in the petitions, particularly the killing of Mr. Edmond Owono Zambo."

The Soviet Union draft resolution was rejected by 6 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. PIGNON (France)(interpretation from French): I wish to recall that yesterday I asked that paragraph 3 be voted upon in two parts, the first

part ending with the words "have been reprimanded".

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote the first part of resolution III, down to the words "in-anticipation".

The first part of the draft resolution, down to and including the words "in anticipation", was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

Paragraph 3, down to and including the words "have been reprimanded" was adopted unanimously.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote the remainder of paragraph 3, beginning with the words "and expresses the hope" and ending with the words "established procedures".

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 against.

The PRESIDENT: A second vote will be taken on the remaining part of paragraph 3.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 against. The remainder of the paragraph was not adopted.

Paragraph 4 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraph 5 was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Paragraph 6 was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

Resolution III as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): With respect to draft resolution IV, could we have paragraph 2 voted on separately, please?

The PRESIDENT: Certainly. I shall put to the vote the first part of the draft resolution commencing with the words "The Trusteeship Council" and ending with the words "because of incapacity".

The first part of the resolution was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

The second part of the resolution, paragraph 2, was adopted by 6 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.

Resolution IV as a whole was adopted by 4 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote the recommendation contained in paragraph 3 on page 2 of the report to the effect that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolutions I, III and IV.

The recommendation was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The sixty-eighth report of the Standing Committee on Petitions is set forth in document T/L.434 and deals with two petitions. I ask the members of the Council to turn to the annex to that document.

Resolution I was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: We now pass to draft resolution II.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet Union delegation submitted a draft resolution on this petition to the Standing Committee. It is as follows:

"The Trusteeship Council,

"Having examined the petition contained in T/PET.5/L.8 and Add.1 from the Fédération d'Agriculture et Forêts de l'Union des Syndicats Confédérés du Cameroun,

"1. Considers that all the questions raised in the petition by the various trade unions are extremely important to the indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territory, the Administering Authority and the United Nations;

"2. Recommends to the Administering Authority that it establish a special committee to carry out consultations with members of the trade unions on all questions raised in the petition in order that they may reach a joint decision to do away with the abnormal situation existing in the trade unions;

"3. Recommends to the Administering Authority that it advise the fifteenth session of the Trusteeship Council as to the result of such consultations."

The PRESIDENT: The members of the Council have heard the proposed draft resolution: I shall put it to the vote.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 against.

The PRESIDENT: I shall put this draft resolution to the vote again.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 against. The proposal was not adopted.

Resolution II was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to the vote the recommendation contained in paragraph 3 of page 2 of the report to the effect that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolution II.

The recommendation was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now take the recess, and it will resume at 4.20 p.m.

The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.

EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION:

- (a) REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION (T/L.407 AND ADD.1,T/L.421) [Agenda items 3(e), 4 and 5]
- (b) INTERIM REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE UNIONS (T/L.428) [Agenda item 7]

The PRESIDENT: As I understand it from the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, the report, document T/L.421, is self-explanatory and he does not consider it necessary to introduce the report formally. Under those circumstances I ask the members of the Council to turn to page 3 of the report and we shall now proceed to consider paragraphs 7 to 20. We shall vote on these paragraphs separately.

Paragraph 7 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 8 was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with no abstentions.

Paragraph 9 was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with no abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now consider paragraph 10.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I request a vote on paragraph 10 by parts, the first part to consist of the first sentence of the paragraph, and the second part to consist of the remainder of the paragraph.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on paragraph 10 in two parts, and then on the paragraph as a whole.

The first sentence of paragraph 10 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The remainder of paragraph 10 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 10 as a whole was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now take up paragraph 11.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I request a separate vote on the third line of paragraph 11, which reads "notes with approval the three large land planning projects now being undertaken". The remainder of the paragraph should read: "and urges the Administering Authority to encourage the further development of experimental farms, roads and water supplies and the more rapid introduction for the indigenous inhabitants of appropriate agricultural machinery as means of improving and expanding their production." The meaning of the sentence should be clear, that is, as a means of improving and expanding the production of the indigenous inhabitants.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on paragraph 11 by parts, the first part reading, "The Council, bearing in mind the increasing importance which agriculture will assume as the general economy of the Territory is developed and diversified", and the second part reading, "notes with approval the three large land planning projects now being undertaken". The representative of the Soviet Union has submitted an amendment to the third part.

The first part of paragraph 11 was adopted unanimously.

The second part of paragraph 11 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: We now have to vote on the amendment proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union to the third part of the paragraph, beginning with the words "and urges the Administering Authority". The amendment is the insertion, after the word "introduction", of the words "for the indigenous inhabitants".

The amendment was adopted by 6 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I voted against the amendment since, as there are no agriculturists other than indigenous inhabitants, it is absurd to say that the development should be pursued in their favour.

Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): I abstained on that vote for precisely the reason that the representative of Belgium voted against the amendment. Far be it from me to stop the Council from doing foolish things.

The PRESIDENT: The next amendment proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union in connexion with the same paragraph is the insertion of the word "their" between the words "expanding" and "production".

The amendment was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now vote on the part of paragraph 11 beginning with the words "and urges" and ending with "expanding their production", as amended.

The third part of paragraph 11 as amended was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

Paragraph 11 as amended was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I would request a separate vote on the first part of paragraph 12, beginning with the words "the Council recalls" and ending with "agricultural producers".

The first part of paragraph 12 was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I would request a separate vote on the next sentence, beginning with the words "the Council" and ending with "existing reserves".

The sentence was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to have some clarification on the phrase in the last part of this paragraph, "especially by way of incentive for improved production, having in mind such possibilities as the investment of annual bonus payments or surplus profits in their behalf in the official purchasing company". What does that mean? Does it mean that, instead of selling their cocoa at a higher price, the farmers will hand their cocoa to the Marketing Board at previous prices, and the difference between the price paid to the producer and the market price would go into the funds of the Board? I do not understand this procedure and I should like someone to explain it to me.

The PRESIDENT: Is the Chairman of the Drafting Committee in a position to elucidate this matter for the benefit of the representative of the Soviet Union?

Mr. YANG (China): I have no comment except that that paragraph was unanimously approved by the Committee and I am not authorized to make any comment on it. I think it is for the representatives on the Council to approve, amend or reject it.

The PRESIDENT: If no one else wishes to comment on this paragraph, I shall put it to the vote.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The point is not clear. If no one can explain what it means, how did it get here? I cannot participate in the vote since I do not understand what this means. If the authors cannot explain what they mean, I cannot participate in the vote. It is a strange situation.

Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) (interpretation from French): I should like to say a few words in order to explain the portion of the sentence which the Soviet Union representative has not understood.

At the time when the question of the policy of the Cocoa Marketing Board was discussed among the members of the Drafting Committee, it was contemplated that one of the means which could be utilized to ensure profits for the cocoa producers of an extra amount in the world market would be -- and that was a proposal made by my delegation -- to pay bounties to them at the end of the year if the Administration or the Board of Directors of the Cocoa Marketing Board thought that it could not pay them the difference between the prices they received at the beginning of the harvest and what they had received on the world market.

The question was debated at length among the members of the Drafting Committee, and the formula which was finally utilized in our draft report was a formula of conciliation and compromise, a formula which did not bind the Administration by a clearly defined policy but which recognized on the part of the Administration that some correction should be made as regards the policy followed up to now -- that is to say, to pay to the producers the price originally fixed, with the money received from the sale of the product on the world market going exclusively either to the Administration as a result of the high taxes which the Administration received from the export of cocoa or to the Cocoa Marketing Board for the various ends for which that body was created.

I do not know if the Soviet Union representative understands this explanation, but I cannot give any other because it was in a conciliatory spirit, that the representative of the Administration received the observations made by the members of the Committee and this formula was arrived at in order to take into account the various points of views expressed.

Mr. McKAY (United States of America): I am sorry to take up the time of the Council but since I participated in the formation of this recommendation, I might add just one or two comments to the helpful explanation which the representative of Haiti has just given. The exact problem raised by the Soviet Union representative was discussed in the Committee, and a proposal was made in the Committee to delete in effect the last three lines of this recommendation. It would then have asked the Administering Authority "to examine all possible means by which the cocoa producers might equitably derive greater benefit from favourable world market conditions, especially by way of incentive for improved production".

My delegation would be content to delete the last three lines if the members of the Council so desire. The last three lines were added at the instance of certain other members of the Committee who wanted to give an indication to the Administering Authority of some of the types of ways in which incentives for improved prices might be considered by the Administering Authority and they were put in. Those representatives felt that it might be helpful to the Administering Authority to spell them out; they are rather complicated. I can see how some of the points in the last three lines might not be entirely clear. However, they were put in by the Committee in a constructive effort to give some indication of some of these "all possible means". However, I say that it is not quite clear, and my delegation would have no objection to putting a period after the words "improved production" and deleting the last three sentences. I am not making that as a proposal; I am prepared to vote for the resolution as it is.

The PRESIDENT: I think we are now in a position to proceed to the vote. We shall now vote on the final sentence of paragraph 12.

The final sentence was approved by 5 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

Paragraph 12 as a whole was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraph 13 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraph 14 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. TSARAFKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I propose a separate vote in paragraph 15 on the words "to continue its efforts".

The PRESIDENT: We shall then vote first on paragraph 15 down to the words "... the Administering Authority".

The part of the paragraph was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The words "to continue its efforts" were adopted by 10 votes to 1.

The rest of the paragraph beginning with the words "to bring about" and ending with "mentioned above" was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Paragraph 15 as a whole was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I voted against the words "to continue its efforts" for the simple reason that those words seem to imply that the Administering Authority has tried to do away with corporal punishment and that, despite these efforts, corporal punishment still remains on the books and has not yet been done away with. If we leave those words, "to continue its efforts", it may well be that within ten or twenty years corporal punishment will still be in existence in the Territory.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to paragraph 16.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I ask for a separate vote on the first part of that paragraph, down to and including the words "expenditure in this field".

The first part of paragraph 16, down to and including the words "expenditure in this field", was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I now ask for a separate vote on the second part of the paragraph, down to and including the words "in particular".

The second part of paragraph 16, down to and including the words "in particular", was adopted unanimously.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I propose that the last part of the paragraph be amended as follows: that the words "supports the Administering Authority in placing" be deleted and that there be substituted therefor the words "recommends to the Administering Authority that it place".

The amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 5.

Paragraph 16 as a whole was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

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The PRESIDENT: We now come to paragraph 17.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Paragraph 17 is said to deal with a very important question; "Labour; wages; living standards". The heading is very pretentious and sounds very important, but I am afraid that the mountain laboured and brought forth a mouse, because the paragraph itself says nothing about living standards or wages. The essence of the paragraph is simply that "a labour officer is to be posted to the Southern Section of the Territory". That is what is in the text. There seems to be a completely non-binding and empty wording in this paragraph, and consequently my delegation will vote against this text.

Paragraph 17 was adopted by 10 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 18 was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to paragraph 19.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I propose that paragraph 19 be amended, as follows: that, in that part of the paragraph which states "in the light of the foregoing observation relating to the state of educational facilities", the word "state" be deleted and the words "extreme shortage" be substituted therefor.

The amendment was rejected by 6 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

Paragraph 19 was adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 20 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on the recommendation contained in paragraph 5 on page 2 of document T/L.421 to the effect that the Trusteeship Council should adopt the working paper on conditions in Togoland under British administration (T/L.407 and Add.1) as the basic text for the chapter on that Territory for inclusion in the Council's next report to the General Assembly.

The recommendation was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

The PRESIDENT: The Council has to consider next the interim report of its Standing Committee on Administrative Unions on Togoland under British administration which is set forth in document T/L.428. In paragraph 8 of its report the Committee requests the Trusteeship Council to postpone consideration of the question of the administrative union affecting Togoland under British administration until it has received a further report from the Committee. In paragraph 6 it expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will find it possible to transmit to it, not later than 15 May 1954, all available information regarding the new constitutional developments as they affect the Trust Territory, and that it will transmit additional information as it becomes available. In paragraphs 3 and 4 of its report the Standing Committee has given the reasons for suggesting this postponement, and the members of the Council will have noted them. It will therefore be necessary for the Council to take a vote on the proposal contained in paragraph 8.

Mr. SINGH (India): Does this mean that this item will be included in the agenda of the fourteenth session, and that it will be considered then?

The PRESIDENT: It will be included in the agenda.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The Council's agenda includes, as item 7, the question of administrative unions and their effect upon the situation in the Trust Territories. To judge from the wording of this item, the Council should have dealt with the subject of administrative unions as a whole and should have

reached decisions in conformity with the aims and purposes of the trusteeship system, as set forth in Chapter XIII of the Charter of the United Nations and in the Trusteeship Agreements, and formulated recommendations which would protect the economic, social and political interests of the populations of the Trust Territories.

In connexion with this interim report of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions on Togoland under British Administration the delegation of the USSR considers it necessary to remind the Council of those decisions of the General Assembly which give the general directive to the organs of the United Nations -- the Trusteeship Council among them -- in this matter of administrative unions.

The question of administrative unions was thoroughly examined as early as during the third session of the General Assembly in Paris in 1948. On 18 November 1948 the General Assembly adopted resolution 224 (III) in which it recalled that it had approved the Trusteeship Agreements "upon the assurance of the Administering Powers that they do not consider the terms of the relevant articles in the Trusteeship Agreements 'as giving powers to the Administering Authority to establish any form of political association between the Trust Territories respectively administered by them and adjacent territories which would involve annexation of the Trust Territories in any sense or would have the effect of extinguishing their status as Trust Territories'."

In this same resolution the General Assembly endorsed the view of the Trusteeship Council that an administrative union "must remain strictly administrative in its nature and its scope, and that its operation must not have the effect of creating any conditions which will obstruct the separate development of the Trust Territory, in the fields of political, economic, social and educational advancement, as a distinct entity".

Considering the independent development of the Trust Territories to be extremely important, the General Assembly then went on in its resolution to "recommend such safeguards as the Council may deem necessary to preserve the distinct political status of the Trust Territories and to enable the Council effectively to exercise supervisory functions over such Territories."

On 15 November 1949, during its fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 326 (IV) in which it noted "that, although the Trusteeship Agreements authorized customs, fiscal and administrative unions or federations, they do not authorize any form of political association which would involve annexation of the Trust Territories in any sense or would have the effect of extinguishing their status as Trust Territories."

On 18 January 1952, at its sixth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 563 (VI) which noted once again, that "the Trusteeship Agreements do not authorize any form of political association which would involve annexation of the Trust Territories in any sense, or would have the effect of extinguishing their status as Trust Territories".

In this resolution the General Assembly also reaffirmed "that measures of customs, fiscal or administrative union must not in any way hamper the free evolution of each Trust Territory towards self-government or independence."

Finally, on 20 December 1952, during its seventh session, the Assembly adopted resolution 649 (VII) in which, adopting the same approach, it recalled once more "that the Trusteeship Agreements do not authorize any form of political association which would involve annexation of the Trust Territories in any sense, or" -- and I would draw attention to the fact that the resolution says this specifically -- "would have the effect of extinguishing their status as Trust Territories". And in this same resolution the General Assembly reaffirmed its view "that measures of customs, fiscal or administrative union must not in any way hamper the free evolution of each Trust Territory towards self-government or independence."

In paragraph 5 of the operative part of resolution 649 (VII), the General Assembly:

"Expresses the hope that the Administering Authorities concerned will consult with the Trusteeship Council concerning any change in or extension of existing administrative unions..."

I have cited the official decisions of the General Assembly. From those decisions it can be seen that the General Assembly attaches a particular importance to the development of the Trust Territories towards self-government and independence. Furthermore, those decisions demonstrate the concern which the United Nations feels at the persistent attempts of the Administering Authorities-- which can also be called colonial Powers; the meaning is the same -- to annex the Trust Territories under the pretext of establishing administrative unions with neighbouring colonies. In fact, it is not a question of administrative unions, but of the complete absorption of the Trust Territories in the neighbouring colonies. The Trust Territories will finally lose that status if the system of administrative unions is allowed to continue.

A direct result of the measures undertaken in this respect by the Administering Authorities is the extension of the colonial regime to all aspects of the life of the Trust Territories. The Administering Authorities are applying in the Trust Territories the systems and policies prevailing in the neighbouring colonies, despite the fact that those systems and policies hinder any development towards self-government and independence.

The question of administrative unions is of the greatest importance. That is why the Soviet Union delegation has insisted that the Trusteeship Council should examine all aspects of the question. It is quite obvious that such an examination could not prevent the Council from examining the particular situation of each Trust Territory concerned. Unfortunately, the wording of item 7 of our agenda -- the item concerning administrative unions -- does not permit a consideration of the whole of the question, and the Council has not proceeded to such a consideration. On the contrary, under the pressure of the colonial Powers, the Trusteeship Council has merely touched on item 7 in passing; it has confined

itself to adopting decisions on the various reports of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions -- and that Committee proposes that an examination of the question should be postponed.

The first report of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions dealt with the Cameroons under British Administration. In that respect, the Trusteeship Council merely decided to postpone its consideration of the question, despite the fact that it was confronted with the union of the British Cameroons with the British colony of Nigeria.

Thanks to the unanimity of the colonial Powers, the Trusteeship Council rejected the Soviet Union proposal that the whole of the question of administrative unions should be discussed. On 25 February, all of the Administering Authorities represented in the Trusteeship Council voted against the proposal, and, consequently, prevented the Council from considering the question of administrative unions.

Today, the Trusteeship Council has before it the second report of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions. That report deals with the union of Togoland under British Administration with the British colony of the Gold Coast. The Standing Committee on Administrative Unions proposes that the consideration of that question should be postponed until the Committee has submitted a further report to the Council. In fact, however, the authors of the report desire that the consideration of the question should be postponed until the Constitution of the Gold Coast has been revised. But when that has happened, the Trust Territory of British Togoland will no longer be a political entity; when the Constitution has been revised, Togoland will no longer have the status of a Trust Territory. It is through a revision of the Constitution of the Gold Coast and the status of Togoland that the Administering Authority is effecting its plan to unite the Trust Territory with the Gold Coast. All those actions are contrary to paragraph 5 of resolution 649 (VII), which I have just read out.

What is happening in Togoland? Obviously, a change in the existing administrative union is being contemplated. The Administering Authority, however, has not consulted the Trusteeship Council. The fact that the Soviet Union proposal that the whole of the question of administrative unions should be

discussed was rejected during this session means that, at its next session, the Trusteeship Council will be faced with a fait accompli: from the constitutional point of view -- that is, from the point of view of the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement -- Togoland will no longer be an independent political entity.

The representatives of the Administering Authorities insist, despite the warnings of the Soviet Union delegation, that the question of administrative unions, and particularly of the union of Togoland under British Administration with the Gold Coast, should not be examined until the Council's next session. That in itself proves that the intention is to place the Trusteeship Council, one of the principal organs of the United Nations, before a fait accompli: the absorption of the Trust Territory of Togoland in the neighbouring colony of the Gold Coast. That is a situation which we cannot tolerate. It is a situation which would be very difficult to correct. That is why the Trusteeship Council must now take all the necessary steps to prevent the Administering Authority from uniting the Trust Territory of Togoland with the Gold Coast -- a measure which, as we have frequently pointed out, it has no right to take.

The Trusteeship Agreement gives the Administering Authority the right to establish fiscal, customs and other unions, but that does not mean that the Administering Authority can change the constitutional status of the Trust Territory, or, that is to say, change the constitution of the Gold Coast in such a way as to regulate and condition the situation in the Trust Territory within the framework of the Administration of the Gold Coast. In other words, in the Administration of the Gold Coast, they are providing for the Administration of the Trust Territory, which would mean the extinction of the Trust Territory and its absorption into the Gold Coast. A decision on this question should be taken at this session of the Trusteeship Council, because we know, from the report which is now before us for consideration, the Administering Authority has already prepared everything in the Gold Coast in order to completely swallow up the Trust Territory of Togoland under United Kingdom administration. This is being done in broad daylight.

In this report it is stated that the Government of the Gold Coast has prepared a Constitution which would take into consideration the constitutional status of Togoland. Elections are to be held on the basis of this new Constitution, and the population of Togoland will be involved in these as part of the Gold Coast; they will not vote as the population of a Trust Territory of the United Nations. In these elections, they will vote in conformity with the Constitution of the Gold Coast.

The absorption, the swallowing, of Togoland will then have been completed and this Trust Territory will disappear from under our hands. Perhaps then the Administering Authority will raise the question and ask for an alteration of the Trusteeship Agreement which was concluded between the United Kingdom and the United Nations, because at that time the Trust Territory will be quietly digesting in the stomach of the Gold Coast. The Soviet Union delegation feels that at this time the Trusteeship Council should take a decision on administrative unions, and for that purpose we submit the following draft resolution:

"The Trusteeship Council,

"Taking into consideration the fact that the question of administrative unions is of great significance for the progressive development of the Trust Territories towards self-government or independence,

"Recommends to the Administering Authorities of Tanganyika, New Guinea, Ruanda-Urundi, Togoland and the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration and Togoland and the Cameroons under French administration that they create in the Territories in question legislative and administrative organs which would not be subject to any organs established on the basis of an administrative union between the Territory and the colony, and for this purpose adopt legislative and other measures which would provide for the participation of the indigenous inhabitants in the legislative, executive and judicial organs of the Trust Territory."

The Soviet Union delegation considers that no procedural considerations or any considerations of any kind should divert the attention of the Trusteeship Council from the adoption at this session of a resolution on administrative unions in order that no errors are committed which would prove to be very expensive for the Council, particularly since, in addition, these errors would be a violation of the rights of the inhabitants of the Trust Territories, rights which are guaranteed by the Charter and by the Trusteeship Agreements.

I ask for this draft resolution to be translated and distributed to the members of the Council. I do not insist upon a vote being taken today, since no doubt the members of the Council will wish to have this text before them in their own working languages. However, I would ask that this text be distributed today.

The PRESIDENT: I propose to put this draft resolution to the vote today.

Mr. MCKAY (United States of America): I am sorry to speak at all at this late hour, but some of the statements made by the representative of the Soviet Union were so completely inaccurate that I must make one clarification, at least, on behalf of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions.

The representative of the Soviet Union said that the Committee had stopped by the wayside and had not done its job. I must have it in the record that the job of the Committee is to submit an annual report on each Territory, and the Committee is going to do that. Every member of the Committee fully intends to do that, and that report will be ready at the time when it is needed, namely, in order for it to be put into the report of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly. But the members of the Committee were unanimous in thinking that the information needed to submit the report was not available, and therefore the Committee submitted an additional report instead of not reporting at all. The Committee submitted an interim report in order to help the Council to keep its records straight, and the report of the Committee on this question will be submitted as the terms of reference of the Committee require, at the next session. I feel it important that this statement be put in the record.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The Trusteeship Council has been seized by the Standing Committee of a motion for the adjournment of the debate. If the President will not consider that that proposal is a proposal for deferment of the debate, I will make the proposal myself. This proposal has priority over the draft resolution proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union, according to rule 56 of our rules of procedure.

The PRESIDENT: The proposal to adjourn the debate until the next session of the Trusteeship Council has priority over the draft resolution submitted by the representative of the Soviet Union. Accordingly, I shall now put to the vote the proposal for the adjournment of this matter until the next session, when the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions will submit a further report.

The proposal for adjournment was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT: The draft resolution submitted by the representative of the Soviet Union will be translated and will come before the Trusteeship Council at its next session.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): In connexion with the decision which has just been taken by the majority of the Council to postpone this question until the next session, I should like to know if the Administering Authority can advise us as to whether or not any change will have come about by the next session of the Council in the relationship between the Gold Coast and the Trust Territory of Togoland under British Administration.

The PRESIDENT: That seems a matter not for the Council but for the Administering Authority. I have no jurisdiction as President to ask any questions in that matter.

Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): A full statement with regard to the intention of the Administering Authority with regard to Togoland has already been made to the Council on several occasions. I have nothing to add to what has been stated.

Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): Then the Council will have to bear the responsibility if, at the fourteenth session, it finds itself facing a fait accompli in respect to the Trust Territory of Togoland because, by that time, the Territory will be under the constitution of the Gold Coast. This will be an incorrect situation.

The PRESIDENT: It is now 5.45 p.m. and although I could proceed with the consideration of some of the petitions affecting this Territory, I think the hour is a little late and I know that the members have some other engagements.

I should like to mention the business which I propose that we should transact on Monday. We have to deal with the petitions affecting this Territory; the report of the Drafting Committee on Togoland under French

Administration; the examination of petitions concerning that Territory; the examination of petitions concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration; the examination of petitions concerning the Trust Territory of Nauru; the examination of petitions concerning the Trust Territory of Tanganyika; the examination of petitions concerning the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi; report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, 1952; report of the Secretary-General on credentials; and examination of annual reports, draft resolution proposed by Syria. That last matter will not be dealt with until Tuesday. Therefore, there is a considerable amount of ground to cover.

I am gratified to learn that the Drafting Committees on Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi have completed their work. Those reports, of course, will have to be considered next week. That, I may mention to the members of the Council, is the present position.

I should also state that I am afraid I have another engagement on Tuesday afternoon in another organ of the United Nations. I shall have to ask the indulgence of the Council and request that we meet on Tuesday morning.

Mr. SINGH (India): From your statement, Mr. President, I receive the impression that we are going to meet on Monday afternoon and on Tuesday morning; and that, on Tuesday, you expect the Council to finish its work.

The PRESIDENT: I am not certain. The members of the Council really know the answer to that much better than I do. You may know how long they take to raise various points and make certain statements. That is not my answer. I could finish it by that time.

Mr. SINGH (India): I had hoped that every Friday we would get the programme for the next week so that we could organize our work. Just now, however, we heard the total items remaining and I, myself, am not quite clear as to what you will consider on Monday, Tuesday and so on.

The PRESIDENT: Let me help the representative of India. I shall tell him what I think we can do on Monday. It seems to me that we can complete the examination of petitions concerning the Territory of Togoland under British Administration, of which there are only three or four. Then, we shall go on to the examination of the report of the Drafting Committee on French Togoland. That may take a little time. The members of the Council know that better than I do. We should be able to deal with that by 4 p.m. After that, we will go on to deal with petitions concerning the Trust Territory of Togoland under French Administration. I do not think there are very many of them. Then there is the examination of petitions concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration, of which there are twenty-nine. If I may communicate my ideas to the representative of India, I am rather doubtful that we will be able to accomplish more than those items I have mentioned on Monday afternoon.

On Tuesday, we will deal with petitions from Nauru, Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi; the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa; and the report of the Secretary-General on credentials. However, I am still leaving out the consideration of the reports on Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi, and participation. Therefore, I do not see how we can possibly complete our work before Wednesday.

Mr. SINGH (India): I fully realize that you are busy on Tuesday afternoon. However, so far as I understand, there are no committees which are going to meet on Monday. Therefore, could we not meet on Monday morning and afternoon and then on Tuesday morning? Thus we could finish our work by Tuesday morning.

The PRESIDENT: I am ready to meet on Monday morning. However, if we do, we face a certain difficulty. We might finish a lot of the work which I have mentioned but we have to distribute the reports of the Drafting Committees on Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi. The members will desire time to consider those reports. I should like to ask the Secretary what he thinks about this matter.

Mr. ALEKSANDER (Secretary): Both reports will be distributed Monday morning. Therefore, if the members are ready to consider them on Tuesday, there will be nothing against that procedure.

The PRESIDENT: If a majority of the members would like me to summon the Council to meet at 10.30 a.m., I will do so. However, I see that there are two people who are protesting.

Mr. SINGH (India): In that case, I withdraw my suggestion to meet on Monday morning.

The PRESIDENT: The Council is adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday afternoon.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.