

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

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742 (VIII). Factors which should be taken into account in deciding whether a Territory is or is not a Territory whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles embodied in the Declaration regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories and the objectives set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter,

Recalling the provisions of resolutions 567 (VI) and 648 (VII), adopted by the General Assembly on 18 January and 10 December 1952 respectively, indicating the value of establishing a list of factors which should be taken into account in deciding whether a

Territory has or has not attained a full measure of self-government,

Having regard to the competence of the General Assembly to consider the principles that should guide the United Nations and the Member States in the implementation of obligations arising from Chapter XI of the Charter and to make recommendations in connexion with them,

Having examined the report¹ of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Factors (Non-Self-Governing Territories) set up by resolution 648 (VII),

¹ See document A/2428.

1. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Factors (Non-Self-Governing Territories);

2. *Approves* the list of factors as adopted by the Fourth Committee;

3. *Recommends* that the annexed list of factors should be used by the General Assembly and the Administering Members as a guide in determining whether any Territory, due to changes in its constitutional status, is or is no longer within the scope of Chapter XI of the Charter, in order that, in view of the documentation provided under resolution 222 (III) of 3 November 1948, a decision may be taken by the General Assembly on the continuation or cessation of the transmission of information required by Chapter XI of the Charter;

4. *Reasserts* that each concrete case should be considered and decided upon in the light of the particular circumstances of that case and taking into account the right of self-determination of peoples;

5. *Considers* that the validity of any form of association between a Non-Self-Governing Territory and a metropolitan or any other country essentially depends on the freely expressed will of the people at the time of the taking of the decision;

6. *Considers* that the manner in which Territories referred to in Chapter XI of the Charter can become fully self-governing is primarily through the attainment of independence, although it is recognized that self-government can also be achieved by association with another State or group of States if this is done freely and on the basis of absolute equality;

7. *Reaffirms* that the factors, while serving as a guide in determining whether the obligations as set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter shall exist, should in no way be interpreted as a hindrance to the attainment of a full measure of self-government by a Non-Self-Governing Territory;

8. *Further reaffirms* that, for a Territory to be deemed self-governing in economic, social or educational affairs, it is essential that its people shall have attained a full measure of self-government;

9. *Instructs* the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories to study any documentation transmitted hereafter under resolution 222 (III) in the light of the list of factors approved by the present resolution, and other relevant considerations which may arise from each concrete case of cessation of information;

10. *Recommends* that the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories take the initiative of proposing modifications at any time to improve the list of factors, as may seem necessary in the light of circumstances.

459th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.

ANNEX

List of Factors

FACTORS INDICATIVE OF THE ATTAINMENT OF INDEPENDENCE OR OF OTHER SEPARATE SYSTEMS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

First part

FACTORS INDICATIVE OF THE ATTAINMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

A. International status

1. *International responsibility.* Full international responsibility of the Territory for the acts inherent in the exercise of

its external sovereignty and for the corresponding acts in the administration of its internal affairs.

2. *Eligibility for membership in the United Nations.*

3. *General international relations.* Power to enter into direct relations of every kind with other governments and with international institutions and to negotiate, sign and ratify international instruments.

4. *National defence.* Sovereign right to provide for its national defence.

B. Internal self-government

1. *Form of government.* Complete freedom of the people of the Territory to choose the form of government which they desire.

2. *Territorial government.* Freedom from control or interference by the government of another State in respect of the internal government (legislature, executive, judiciary, and administration of the Territory).

3. *Economic, social and cultural jurisdiction.* Complete autonomy in respect of economic, social and cultural affairs.

Second part

FACTORS INDICATIVE OF THE ATTAINMENT OF OTHER SEPARATE SYSTEMS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

A. General

1. *Opinion of the population.* The opinion of the population of the Territory, freely expressed by informed and democratic processes, as to the status or change in status which they desire.

2. *Freedom of choice.* Freedom of choosing on the basis of the right of self-determination of peoples between several possibilities, including independence.

3. *Voluntary limitation of sovereignty.* Degree of evidence that the attribute or attributes of sovereignty which are not individually exercised will be collectively exercised by the larger entity thus associated and the freedom of the population of a Territory which has associated itself with the metropolitan country to modify at any time this status through the expression of their will by democratic means.

4. *Geographical considerations.* Extent to which the relations of the Non-Self-Governing Territory with the capital of the metropolitan government may be affected by circumstances arising out of their respective geographical positions, such as separation by land, sea or other natural obstacles; and extent to which the interests of boundary States may be affected, bearing in mind the general principle of good-neighbourliness referred to in Article 74 of the Charter.

5. *Ethnic and cultural considerations.* Extent to which the populations are of different race, language or religion or have a distinct cultural heritage, interests or aspirations, distinguishing them from the peoples of the country with which they freely associate themselves.

6. *Political advancement.* Political advancement of the population sufficient to enable them to decide upon the future destiny of the Territory with due knowledge.

B. International status

1. *General international relations.* Degree or extent to which the Territory exercises the power to enter freely into direct relations of every kind with other governments and with international institutions and to negotiate, sign and ratify international instruments freely. Degree or extent to which the metropolitan country is bound, through constitutional provisions or legislative means, by the freely expressed wishes of the Territory in negotiating, signing and ratifying international conventions which may influence conditions in the Territory.

2. *Change of political status.* The right of the metropolitan country or the Territory to change the political status of that Territory in the light of the consideration whether that Territory is or is not subject to any claim or litigation on the part of another State.

3. *Eligibility for membership in the United Nations.*

C. Internal self-government

1. *Territorial government.* Nature and measure of control or interference, if any, by the government of another State in

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respect of the internal government, for example, in respect of the following:

Legislature: The enactment of laws for the Territory by an indigenous body whether fully elected by free and democratic processes or lawfully constituted in a manner receiving the free consent of the population;

Executive: The selection of members of the executive branch of the government by the competent authority in the Territory receiving consent of the indigenous population, whether that authority is hereditary or elected, having regard also to the nature and measure of control, if any, by an outside agency on that authority, whether directly or indirectly exercised in the constitution and conduct of the executive branch of the government;

Judiciary: The establishment of courts of law and the selection of judges.

2. *Participation of the population.* Effective participation of the population in the government of the Territory: (a) Is there an adequate and appropriate electoral and representative system? (b) Is this electoral system conducted without direct or indirect interference from a foreign government?^a

3. *Economic, social and cultural jurisdiction.* Degree of autonomy in respect of economic, social and cultural affairs, as illustrated by the degree of freedom from economic pressure as exercised, for example, by a foreign minority group which, by virtue of the help of a foreign Power, has acquired a privileged economic status prejudicial to the general economic interest of the people of the Territory; and by the degree of freedom and lack of discrimination against the indigenous population of the Territory in social legislation and social developments.

Third part

FACTORS INDICATIVE OF THE FREE ASSOCIATION OF A TERRITORY ON EQUAL BASIS WITH THE METROPOLITAN OR OTHER COUNTRY AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THAT COUNTRY OR IN ANY OTHER FORM

A. General

1. *Opinion of the population.* The opinion of the population of the Territory, freely expressed by informed and democratic processes, as to the status or change in status which they desire.

2. *Freedom of choice.* The freedom of the population of a Non-Self-Governing Territory which has associated itself with the metropolitan country as an integral part of that country or in any other form to modify this status through the expression of their will by democratic means.

3. *Geographical considerations.* Extent to which the relations of the Territory with the capital of the central government may be affected by circumstances arising out of their respective geographical positions, such as separation by land, sea or other natural obstacles. The right of the metropolitan country or the Territory to change the political status of that Territory in the light of the consideration whether that Territory is or is not subject to any claim or litigation on the part of another State.

4. *Ethnic and cultural considerations.* Extent to which the population are of different race, language or religion or have a distinct cultural heritage, interests or aspirations, distinguishing them from the peoples of the country with which they freely associate themselves.

5. *Political advancement.* Political advancement of the population sufficient to enable them to decide upon the future destiny of the Territory with due knowledge.

6. *Constitutional considerations.* Association by virtue of a treaty or bilateral agreement affecting the status of the Territory, taking into account (i) whether the constitutional guarantees extend equally to the associated Territory, (ii) whether there are powers in certain matters constitutionally reserved to the Territory or to the central authority, and (iii) whether there is provision for the participation of the Territory on a basis of equality in any changes in the constitutional system of the State.

B. Status

1. *Legislative representation.* Representation without discrimination in the central legislative organs on the same basis as other inhabitants and regions.

2. *Participation of the population.* Effective participation of the population in the government of the Territory: (a) Is there an adequate and appropriate electoral and representative system? (b) Is this electoral system conducted without direct or indirect interference from a foreign government?^a

3. *Citizenship.* Citizenship without discrimination on the same basis as other inhabitants.

4. *Government officials.* Eligibility of officials from the Territory to all public offices of the central authority, by appointment or election, on the same basis as those from other parts of the country.

C. Internal constitutional conditions

1. *Suffrage.* Universal and equal suffrage, and free periodic elections, characterized by an absence of undue influence over and coercion of the voter or of the imposition of disabilities on particular political parties.^b

2. *Local rights and status.* In a unitary system equal rights and status for the inhabitants and local bodies of the Territory as enjoyed by inhabitants and local bodies of other parts of the country; in a federal system an identical degree of self-government for the inhabitants and local bodies of all parts of the federation.

3. *Local officials.* Appointment or election of officials in the Territory on the same basis as those in other parts of the country.

4. *Internal legislation.* Local self-government of the same scope and under the same conditions as enjoyed by other parts of the country.

5. *Economic, social and cultural jurisdiction.* Degree of autonomy in respect of economic, social and cultural affairs, as illustrated by the degree of freedom from economic pressure as exercised, for example, by a foreign minority group which, by virtue of the help of a foreign Power, has acquired a privileged economic status prejudicial to the general economic interest of the people of the Territory; and by the degree of freedom and lack of discrimination against the indigenous population of the Territory in social legislation and social developments.

^a For example, the following questions would be relevant:

(i) Has each adult inhabitant equal power (subject to special safeguards for minorities) to determine the character of the government of the Territory?

(ii) Is this power exercised freely, i.e., is there an absence of undue influence over and coercion of the voter and of the imposition of disabilities on particular political parties?

Some tests which can be used in the application of this factor are as follows:

(a) The existence of effective measures to ensure the democratic expression of the will of the people;

(b) The existence of more than one political party in the Territory;

(c) The existence of a secret ballot;

(d) The existence of legal prohibitions on the exercise of undemocratic practices in the course of elections;

(e) The existence for the individual elector of a choice between candidates of differing political parties;

(f) The absence of "martial law" and similar measures at election times;

(iii) Is each individual free to express his political opinions, to support or oppose any political party or cause, and to criticize the government of the day?

^b For example, the following tests would be relevant:

(a) The existence of effective measures to ensure the democratic expression of the will of the people;

(b) The existence of more than one political party in the Territory;

(c) The existence of a secret ballot;

(d) The existence of legal prohibitions on the exercise of undemocratic practices in the course of elections;

(e) The existence for the individual elector of a choice between candidates of differing political parties;

(f) The absence of "martial law" and similar measures at election times;

(g) Freedom of each individual to express his political opinions, to support or oppose any political party or cause, and to criticize the government of the day.

743 (VIII). Educational conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Considering that, by resolution 445 (V) adopted on 12 December 1950, it approved the special report² on education drawn up in 1950 as a brief but considered indication of the importance of educational advancement and of the problems still to be faced in the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting the further report prepared in 1953 by the Committee on Information³ from Non-Self-Governing Territories on educational conditions in these Territories,

1. Approves this further report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories as a supplement to the report approved in 1950;

2. Emphasizes that the objectives of education in Non-Self-Governing Territories are:

(a) To develop moral and civic consciousness and responsibility among the peoples, and to enable them to take an increasing share of responsibility in the conduct of their own affairs;

(b) To raise the standards of living of the peoples by helping them to improve their economic productivity and standards of health;

(c) To promote the social progress of the Territories, taking into account the basic cultural values and the aspirations of the peoples concerned;

(d) To secure the extension of the intellectual development of the peoples so as to provide for them access to all-levels of culture;

3. Affirms that, in accordance with the above objectives, the process of education should be designed to familiarize the inhabitants with and train them in the use of the tools of economic, social and political progress, with a view to the attainment of a full measure of self-government;

4. Recommends to the Administering Members that, in order to carry out the said objectives and in general to solve the educational problems of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, they should seek the technical advice of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and make the greatest possible use of the facilities of the specialized agencies;

5. Recommends further to the Administering Members that they similarly make the greatest possible use of offers that may be made to them by other States Members of the United Nations through the Secretary-General or through the specialized agencies concerned or in other appropriate ways, for the purpose of facilitating the educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by such means as making available fellowships, scholarships and internships to qualified students from these Territories;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to communicate the report on education and the present resolution to the Members of the United Nations responsible for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories, to the Economic and Social Council, to the Trusteeship Council and to the specialized agencies concerned for their consideration.

*459th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.*

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifth Session, Supplement No. 17, part II.*

³ *Ibid.*, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 15, part II.

744 (VIII). Association of representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Whereas the direct association of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies has been considered as an effective means of promoting the progress of the populations of these Territories towards a status of equality with the States Members of the United Nations,

Whereas it has been recognized that the direct association of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories can be of further assistance in promoting the progress of these Territories and their peoples towards the goals set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations,

Whereas the Administering Members have been invited to make possible the association of qualified representative inhabitants of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

Considering the technical difficulties advanced by the Administering Members on the question of accepting the collaboration in the work of the Committee of Non-Self-Governing Territories as "associate members",

Considering that the principle of unity of representation must be maintained,

Noting that the Member States administering Non-Self-Governing Territories have from time to time attached representative inhabitants of the Territories to their delegations,

Considering that this practice should be stimulated and developed,

1. Invites the Member States administering Non-Self-Governing Territories, the inhabitants of which have attained a large measure of responsibility for economic, social and educational policies, to attach to their delegations, without prejudice to the principle stated in the fifth paragraph of the preamble, indigenous representatives specially qualified to speak on these matters as they relate to these Territories;

2. Requests the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories to continue, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 647 (VII) of 10 December 1952, the study of means of securing a progressive increase in the participation of duly qualified representatives of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in its work.

*459th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.*

745 (VIII). Representation on the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Noting that the work of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly in relation to the special studies of certain functional fields initiated under General Assembly resolution 333 (IV) of 2 December 1949, has been materially assisted by the action of States members of the Committee, including certain non-administering Members, in associating with their delegations persons with special

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qualifications in the functional fields studied by the Committee,

Considering that this is a practice which might be extended with advantage to the work of the Committee, in that the pooling and exchange of knowledge and experience thus achieved will enable it more efficaciously to assess the economic, social and educational problems of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the light of the solutions being found to those problems elsewhere in the world,

1. *Commends* the action of those Members which have included specialist advisers in their delegations to the Committee;

2. *Expresses the hope* that those Members which have not hitherto found it possible to do so, will find it appropriate to associate with their delegations persons specially qualified in the functional fields within the Committee's purview.

459th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.

746 (VIII). Employment of international staff from Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Considering that the paragraph 3 of Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, regarding the employment of the staff of the United Nations, states that, in addition to the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity in employment of Secretariat staff, due regard should be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible,

Having regard to the objectives set forth in Chapters XI and XII of the Charter in respect of the advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories,

Considering that the services of individuals from Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories in the Secretariat of the United Nations will contribute to a wider geographical coverage in the recruitment of staff,

Considering the statement⁴ made by the Secretary-General that he has already taken note of the wishes expressed in the Fourth Committee on this matter,

1. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General consider the desirability of continuing and increasing the recruitment of suitably qualified inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories for the Secretariat of the United Nations;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the specialized agencies to the present resolution with a view to a similar policy being followed as far as possible in the secretariats of those agencies.

459th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.

747 (VIII). Cessation of the transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter in respect of the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 650 (VII) of 20 December 1952 it invited the Committee set up to study

⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Fourth Committee, 342nd meeting.*

the factors which should be taken into account in deciding whether a Territory is or is not a Territory whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government to examine carefully the documents submitted by the Netherlands Government relating to the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam in the light of resolution 648 (VII) of 10 December 1952,

Having received and considered the report⁵ of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Factors (Non-Self-Governing Territories) established by resolution 648 (VII),

Having taken note of the statement⁶ of the representative of the Netherlands that the negotiations between representatives of the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam, which were adjourned in the year 1952, will shortly be resumed,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam towards self-government;

2. *Considers* that the new status of the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam can only be rightly appraised after the said negotiations have led to a final result and this has been embodied in constitutional provisions;

3. *Expresses* to the Netherlands Government its confidence that, as a result of the negotiations, a new status will be attained by the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam representing a full measure of self-government in fulfilment of the objectives set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter;

4. *Invites* the Government of the Netherlands to communicate to the Secretary-General the result of these negotiations as well as the provisions mentioned in paragraph 2 above;

5. *Invites* the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories to examine these communications in connexion with the information already transmitted and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

6. *Requests* the Government of the Netherlands to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General the information specified in Article 73 e of the Charter in regard to the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam until such time as the General Assembly takes a decision that the transmission of information in regard to these Territories should be discontinued.

459th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.

748 (VIII). Cessation of the transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter in respect of Puerto Rico

The General Assembly,

Considering that, in resolution 222 (III) of 3 November 1948, the General Assembly, while welcoming any development of self-government in Non-Self-Governing Territories, considers it essential that the United Nations be informed of any change in the constitutional status of any such Territory as a result of which the government responsible for the transmission, under Article 73 e of the Charter, of information in respect of that Territory thinks it unnecessary or inappropriate to continue such a practice,

Having received the communications⁷ dated 19 January and 20 March 1953 informing the United Nations

⁵ See document A/2428.

⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Fourth Committee, 343rd meeting, para. 70.*

⁷ See document A/AC.35/L.121.

of the establishment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as a result of the entry into force on 25 July 1952 of the Constitution of Puerto Rico, and stating that, in consequence of these constitutional changes, the Government of the United States of America would cease to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter,

Having studied the report⁸ prepared by the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, during its session of 1953, on the question of the cessation of the transmission of information on Puerto Rico, and presented to the General Assembly in conformity with paragraph 2 of resolution 448 (V) of 12 December 1950,

Having examined the communications of the Government of the United States of America in the light of the basic principles embodied in Chapter XI of the Charter and of all the other elements of judgment pertinent to the issue,

Considering that the agreement reached by the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, in forming a political association which respects the individuality and the cultural characteristics of Puerto Rico, maintains the spiritual bonds between Puerto Rico and Latin America and constitutes a link in continental solidarity,

Bearing in mind the competence of the General Assembly to decide whether a Non-Self-Governing Territory has or has not attained a full measure of self-government as referred to in Chapter XI of the Charter,

1. *Takes note favourably* of the conclusions set forth by the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories in its resolution;⁹

2. *Recognizes* that the people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, by expressing their will in a free and democratic way, have achieved a new constitutional status;

3. *Expresses the opinion* that it stems from the documentation provided that the association of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico with the United States of America has been established as a mutually agreed association;

4. *Recognizes* that, when choosing their constitutional and international status, the people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico have effectively exercised their right to self-determination;

5. *Recognizes* that, in the framework of their Constitution and of the compact agreed upon with the United States of America, the people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico have been invested with attributes of political sovereignty which clearly identify the status of self-government attained by the Puerto Rican people as that of an autonomous political entity;

6. *Considers* that, due to these circumstances, the Declaration regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories and the provisions established under it in Chapter XI of the Charter can no longer be applied to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

7. *Takes note* of the opinion of the Government of the United States of America as to the cessation of the transmission under Article 73 e of the Charter of information on Puerto Rico;

8. *Considers it appropriate* that the transmission of this information should cease;

9. *Expresses its assurance* that, in accordance with the spirit of the present resolution, the ideals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the traditions of the people of the United States of America and the political advancement attained by the people of Puerto Rico, due regard will be paid to the will of both the Puerto Rican and American peoples in the conduct of their relations under their present legal statute, and also in the eventuality that either of the parties to the mutually agreed association may desire any change in the terms of this association.

459th plenary meeting,
27 November 1953.

749. (VIII). Question of South West Africa

A

The General Assembly,

Having accepted, by resolution 449 A (V) of 13 December 1950 and by resolution 570 (VI) of 19 January 1952, the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice with respect to South West Africa,

Recalling that the advisory opinion¹⁰ of the International Court of Justice with respect to the Territory of South West Africa sets forth, *inter alia*, that:

(a) The Territory of South West Africa is a Territory under the international Mandate assumed by the Union of South Africa on 17 December 1920,

(b) The Union of South Africa acting alone has not the competence to modify the international status of the Territory of South West Africa, and that the competence to determine and modify the international status of the Territory rests with the Union of South Africa acting with the consent of the United Nations,

(c) The Union of South Africa continues to have the international obligations stated in Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations and in the Mandate for South West Africa as well as the obligation to transmit petitions from the inhabitants of that Territory, the supervisory functions to be exercised by the United Nations to which the annual reports and the petitions are to be submitted,

Considering that, in accordance with the opinion of the International Court of Justice, the Union of South Africa is under an obligation to accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court as provided by Article 37 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, by Article 80, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations and by article 7 of the Mandate for South West Africa,

Having reconstituted the *Ad Hoc* Committee on South West Africa, consisting of the representatives of Norway, Syria, Thailand, the United States of America and Uruguay, by General Assembly resolution 570 A (VI) of 19 January 1952 and, by General Assembly resolution 651 (VII) of 20 December 1952, having continued it on the same basis as before,

Having considered the reports of the aforesaid *Ad Hoc* Committee, i.e., document A/2261 submitted on 21 November 1952 and documents A/2475 and Add.1 and 2 submitted on 16 September, 8 October and 9 November 1953,

⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 15*, part I, section VII.

⁹ *Ibid.*, page 6.

¹⁰ See *International Status of South West Africa, Advisory Opinion*: I.C.J. Reports 1950, page 128.

1. *Commends* the *Ad Hoc* Committee on South West Africa for its earnest and constructive efforts to find a mutually satisfactory basis of agreement;

2. *Records with deep regret* that the Government of the Union of South Africa continues in its refusal to assist in the implementation of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice concerning South West Africa, and continues to maintain that the Union of South Africa has no international commitments as the result of the demise of the League of Nations, and that the Government of the Union of South Africa is prepared only to enter into new arrangements for the Territory of South West Africa with the Principal Allied and Associated Powers of the First World War (France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America), and not with the United Nations;

3. *Notes with concern* that, as required by paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 570 A (VI), the *Ad Hoc* Committee was unable to examine reports on the administration of the Territory of South West Africa because again no such reports were submitted by the Government of the Union of South Africa;

4. *Notes with further regret* that the Union of South Africa has refused to co-operate with the United Nations concerning the submission of petitions in accordance with the procedures of the Mandates System;

5. *Notes* the contents of the communications relating to South West Africa received by the *Ad Hoc* Committee in 1951, 1952 and 1953 from sources within and outside the Territory of South West Africa and contained in the aforesaid reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

6. *Affirms* that, in order to implement the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice with regard to South West Africa,

(a) The supervision of the administration of South West Africa, though it should not exceed that which applied under the Mandates System, should be exercised by the United Nations; judicial supervision by the International Court of Justice, which the Union Government is prepared to accept, is not in accordance with the advisory opinion expressed by that Court and accepted by the General Assembly;

(b) The Union Government should assume its obligations to the United Nations and not, as proposed by the Union Government, to the three Powers (France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) as principals;

7. *Appeals solemnly* to the Government of the Union of South Africa to reconsider its position, and urges it to continue negotiations with the Committee on South West Africa, established under paragraph 12 below, in accordance with the aforesaid principles for the purpose of concluding an agreement providing for the full implementation of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice; and urges it further to resume submission of reports on the administration of the Territory of South West Africa and to transmit to the United Nations petitions from individuals or groups of the population of the Territory;

8. *Recalls and reaffirms* that the Territory of South West Africa is a Territory under the international Mandate assumed by the Union of South Africa on 17 December 1920;

9. *Reaffirms further* that the Union of South Africa continues to have the international obligations

stated in Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations and in the Mandate for South West Africa as well as the obligation to transmit petitions from the inhabitants of that Territory, the supervisory functions to be exercised by the United Nations to which the annual reports and the petitions are to be submitted;

10. *Considers* that without United Nations supervision the inhabitants of the Territory are deprived of the international supervision envisaged by the Covenant of the League of Nations;

11. *Believes* that it would not fulfil its obligation towards the inhabitants of South West Africa if it were not to assume the supervisory responsibilities with regard to the Territory of South West Africa which were formerly exercised by the League of Nations;

12. *Establishes*, until such time as an agreement is reached between the United Nations and the Union of South Africa, a Committee on South West Africa, consisting of seven Members, and requests this Committee to:

(a) Examine, within the scope of the Questionnaire adopted by the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations in 1926, such information and documentation as may be available in respect of the Territory of South West Africa;

(b) Examine, as far as possible in accordance with the procedure of the former Mandates System, reports and petitions which may be submitted to the Committee or to the Secretary-General;

(c) Transmit to the General Assembly a report concerning conditions in the Territory taking into account, as far as possible, the scope of the reports of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations;

(d) Prepare, for the consideration of the General Assembly, a procedure for the examination of reports and petitions which should conform as far as possible to the procedure followed in this respect by the Assembly, the Council and the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations;

13. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue negotiations with the Union of South Africa in order to implement fully the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice regarding the question of South West Africa;

14. *Requests* the Committee to submit reports on its activities to the General Assembly at its regular sessions.

460th plenary meeting,
28 November 1953.

* * *

At its 467th plenary meeting on 3 December 1953, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee to the President, approved the nomination of the following Members to serve on the Committee on South West Africa: Brazil, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Syria, Thailand and Uruguay.

B

The General Assembly,

Having recommended, by its resolutions 65 (I) of 14 December 1946, 141 (II) of 1 November 1947, 227 (III) of 26 November 1948, 337 (IV) of 6 December 1949, 449 B (V) of 13 December 1950 and 570 B (VI) of 19 January 1952, that the Mandated Territory of South West Africa be placed under the International Trusteeship System, and having repeatedly invited the Government of the Union of South

Africa to propose, for the consideration of the General Assembly, a Trusteeship Agreement for South West Africa,

Having accepted, by resolution 449 A (V) of 13 December 1950, the advisory opinion of 11 July 1950 of the International Court of Justice concerning South West Africa, *inter alia*, to the effect that:

(a) While "the provisions of Chapter XII of the Charter do not impose on the Union of South Africa a legal obligation to place the Territory under the Trusteeship System", they "are applicable to the Territory of South West Africa in the sense that they provide a means by which the Territory may be brought under the Trusteeship System",

(b) "... the Union of South Africa acting alone has not the competence to modify the international status of the Territory of South West Africa," and "... the competence to determine and modify the international status of the Territory rests with the Union of South Africa acting with the consent of the United Nations",

Considering that, in accordance with Chapter XII of the Charter, all Mandated Territories which have not achieved independence have been brought under the Trusteeship System with the sole exception of the Territory of South West Africa,

1. *Reiterates* its resolutions 65 (I) of 14 December 1946, 141 (II) of 1 November 1947, 227 (III) of 26 November 1948, 337 (IV) of 6 December 1949, 449 B (V) of 13 December 1950 and 570 B (VI) of 19 January 1952, to the effect that the Territory of South West Africa be placed under the International Trusteeship System;

2. *Reasserts* that the normal way of modifying the international status of the Territory would be to place it under the Trusteeship System by means of a Trusteeship Agreement in accordance with the provisions of Chapter XII of the Charter.

460th plenary meeting,
28 November 1953.

750 (VIII). The Togoland unification problem

A

The General Assembly,

Having examined the special report¹¹ of the Trusteeship Council on the Ewe and Togoland unification problem,

Taking into account the conclusion contained in the special report¹² of the 1952 United Nations Visiting Mission (T/1034) that "the people of the Trust Territories desire in principle unification of the two Trust Territories",

Recalling that the General Assembly based its resolution 652 (VII) of 20 December 1952 upon the consideration, *inter alia*, that the unification of the two parts of Togoland is the manifest aspiration of the majority of the population of the two Trust Territories,

Considering that the best means of achieving a form of unification acceptable to all groups of the population is through direct and continuous interchange of opinions among the representatives of those groups, and that such interchange of opinions could be realized in a reconstituted Joint Council for Togoland Affairs with

ample powers to examine all aspects of the problem of unification of both Territories and to formulate pertinent recommendations,

Having heard the declarations¹³ of the representatives of the All-Ewe Conference, of the Joint Togoland Congress and of the Parti togolais du progrès,

Having heard also the declarations¹⁴ of the representatives of the Administering Authorities concerned,

1. *Regrets* that the Joint Council for Togoland Affairs has not yet been re-established;

2. *Reaffirms* the principles and aims of its resolutions 555 (VI) and 652 (VII) approved on 18 January and 20 December 1952 respectively;

3. *Recommends* that, in order to ensure that the Joint Council will faithfully reflect the wishes of all sections of the population of the two Trust Territories, its members should be directly elected by universal adult suffrage and secret ballot;

4. *Recommends* that the Administering Authorities establish, in consultation with the representatives of the different political parties, the rules concerning the structure which the Joint Council for Togoland Affairs should assume;

5. *Recommends* that the Administering Authorities assist the representatives of the different political parties to explain freely throughout Togoland their views on the problem of unification and, to this effect, that they take all necessary measures to ensure freedom of speech, movement and assembly in all parts of the Territories;

6. *Recommends* that the Administering Authorities disseminate throughout the two Trust Territories the complete texts of the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Trusteeship Council in the main vernacular languages as well as in French or in English;

7. *Recommends* to the Administering Authorities the re-establishment of the Joint Council with the power to consider and make recommendations on the question of unification, as well as on all political, economic, social and educational matters affecting the two Trust Territories, and to serve as a means of ascertaining the opinions of the inhabitants of the Territories concerning any proposed changes in the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement for either of the Territories;

8. *Re-emphasizes* its recommendation that, through the Joint Council and in other ways, the Administering Authorities adopt measures to promote common policies on political, economic and social matters of mutual concern to the two Trust Territories, and expresses the opinion that the implementation of this recommendation requires that the Administering Authorities accord to each Territory simultaneously a large measure of progress towards the objectives of Article 76 of the Charter and harmonize in all major respects the political, economic, social and educational policies and systems applying in the two Trust Territories;

9. *Invites* the Trusteeship Council to submit to the General Assembly at its ninth session a special report concerning the steps which have been taken towards the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Expresses the hope* that the different political parties of both Territories will co-operate to achieve

¹³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Fourth Committee*, 365th, 366th and 367th meetings.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 365th meeting.

¹¹ See document A/2424.

¹² See document T/1034, page 127.

a formula acceptable to all which will facilitate the unification of the two Trust Territories.

*469th plenary meeting,
8 December 1953.*

B

The General Assembly,

Considering that there is an urgent need to develop fully in the two parts of Togoland a system of universal suffrage and that it is consequently essential to establish effective facilities for electoral registration, with a view to the formation of an electoral body truly representative of the population of each Territory as a whole,

Noting paragraph (b) of the text of the announcement¹⁵ made by the two Administering Authorities on 12 June 1953 concerning the re-establishment of the Joint Council for Togoland Affairs,

Noting further the observations made on this matter by the petitioners heard by the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly, as well as the statements made by the representatives of the Administering Authorities,

1. *Urgently invites* the Administering Authorities to revise the system of electoral qualifications in force in the Territories and to put into effect a method of electoral registration based on personal identification which shall permit all adult persons to qualify for the right to vote and shall ensure that electoral consultations be carried out in accordance with the democratic principles of universal, direct and secret suffrage so as to reflect the opinion of the population as a whole;

2. *Recommends* that the political parties in the two Territories collaborate closely with the respective Administering Authorities with a view to carrying out the identification of the adult persons for electoral purposes.

*469th plenary meeting,
8 December 1953.*

C

The General Assembly,

Noting that Togoland under British administration is administered as an integral part of the Gold Coast, the Government of which has published a series of proposals¹⁶ for constitutional changes designed to effect a further transfer of executive and legislative powers from the Administering Authority to the Gold Coast Government and to serve as an interim measure leading towards full self-government for the Gold Coast within the British Commonwealth of Nations,

Noting that in the course of these proposals the Government of the Gold Coast expressed confidence that "the United Nations Organization will not fail to give satisfaction to the frequently reiterated and unanimous demand of the people of the Northern Section for their area to become part of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast" and stated further that "there is a growing opinion in Southern Togoland in favour of integration with the Gold Coast",

Noting also that, in anticipation of further constitutional changes in the Gold Coast, the 1952 United Nations Visiting Mission, in its report¹⁷ on Togoland under British administration, raised with some urgency the question of the compatibility of the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement with any further appre-

able transfer of executive and legislative authority to the Government of the Gold Coast, and expressed the opinion that the prospect of a further constitutional advance in the Gold Coast may require the position of the Trust Territory to be reviewed with particular care within a relatively short period of time,

Recalling further that the Visiting Missions of 1949 and 1952 and the Trusteeship Council at its eleventh session have recognized that the question of the future constitutional association of Togoland with the Gold Coast depends to a large extent upon the settlement of the unification problem,

1. *Expresses the opinion* that further changes in the Constitution of the Gold Coast, with which Togoland under British administration is administered as an integral part, may, to the extent that they provide for an increased measure of self-government, necessitate revision of the existing Trusteeship Agreement in respect of the Trust Territory in so far as concerns the existing administrative union;

2. *Considers* that, in view of the manifest aspiration of the majority of the population of both the Trust Territories of Togoland for the unification of those Territories, any change in the Trusteeship Agreement for Togoland under British administration will necessarily affect the interests of the inhabitants of Togoland under French administration;

3. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council, at its thirteenth session, to re-examine in all aspects the problem of achieving in the two Trust Territories the basic objectives of the International Trusteeship System as set forth in Article 76 of the Charter and, in particular, the progressive development of the inhabitants towards self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of the Territories and their peoples and their freely expressed wishes, having particular regard to the special circumstances created by the constitutional and political situation in the Gold Coast as it affects both Togoland under British administration and Togoland under French administration;

4. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council to submit to the General Assembly at its ninth session a special report on this problem.

*469th plenary meeting,
8 December 1953.*

751 (VIII). Revision of the Questionnaire relating to Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Noting that the Trusteeship Council has adopted the revised Questionnaire,¹⁸

Considering that, under Article 88 of the Charter, the Administering Authorities shall make an annual report to the General Assembly, upon the basis of a questionnaire formulated by the Trusteeship Council, on the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of each Trust Territory,

Considering that, in approving the Provisional Questionnaire, the Trusteeship Council emphasized that it would be adapted, if necessary, to specific Trust Territories,

Considering that the revised Questionnaire is not applicable in its entirety to all Trust Territories,

¹⁵ See document T/1067/Rev.1.

¹⁶ See document A/C.4/249.

¹⁷ See document T/1040.

¹⁸ See document T/1010.

1. *Instructs* a Sub-Committee, consisting of representatives of El Salvador, Haiti, India and Syria, to examine the Questionnaire formulated by the Trusteeship Council, to study such changes as may be necessary to adapt it to the special conditions of each Territory, and to submit its conclusions to the Trusteeship Council;

2. *Invites* the Trusteeship Council to undertake, on the basis of the work of the Sub-Committee established under the preceding paragraph, the preparation of separate questionnaires adapted to the particular circumstances of each Trust Territory.

471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.

752 (VIII). Attainment by the Trust Territories of the objective of self-government or independence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 558 (VI) of 18 January 1952 by which it invited the Administering Authority of each Trust Territory other than Somaliland under Italian administration to include in each annual report information concerning measures taken or contemplated towards self-government or independence and, *inter alia*, the estimated period of time required for such measures and for the attainment of the ultimate objective,

Having received from the Administering Authorities concerned annual reports covering periods subsequent to 18 January 1952 in respect of all except one of the Trust Territories, namely, the Territories of Western Samoa, New Guinea, Nauru, Tanganyika, Ruanda-Urundi, Togoland under British administration, Togoland under French administration and the Cameroons under French administration,

Noting that the Administering Authorities have not provided in these annual reports the information requested in resolution 558 (VI),

Noting, however, that the Administering Authority of Western Samoa has declared its intention¹⁹ to initiate in 1954 consultations among the representatives of the inhabitants leading to the establishment of a self-governing State,

1. *Reaffirms* resolution 558 (VI) of 18 January 1952;

2. *Commends* to the Administering Authorities of the other Trust Territories the example provided by the Administering Authority of Western Samoa in inviting the inhabitants themselves in 1954 to formulate proposals for the establishment of a self-governing State;

3. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council to include in its next and succeeding reports to the General Assembly a separate section dealing with the implementation of resolution 558 (VI) and the present resolution, specifying in particular the measures taken in respect of:

(a) Consultations with the inhabitants of each Trust Territory in regard to the measures taken or contemplated towards self-government;

(b) The development in each Trust Territory of representative, executive and legislative organs and the extension of their powers;

¹⁹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 4*, page 64.

(c) The development in each Trust Territory of universal adult suffrage and direct elections;

(d) The training and appointment of indigenous persons in each Trust Territory for positions of responsibility in the administration;

(e) The development of adequate public revenue; and stating in each case its conclusions and recommendations in the light of resolution 558 (VI) and the present resolution.

471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.

753 (VIII). Educational advancement in Trust Territories: offers by Member States of study and training facilities

The General Assembly,

Noting from the report²⁰ of the Trusteeship Council the results to date of the project of fellowships, scholarships and internships offered by Member States to students from the Trust Territories pursuant to General Assembly resolution 557 (VI) of 18 January 1952,

Considering that the offers thus far made by Member States relate to study and training of university standard and that the inability of the Administering Authorities of the Trust Territories to provide a sufficient number of candidates is due in part to the generally low levels of education prevailing in the Territories and, in particular, to the inadequacy of facilities for post-primary education,

Considering further that the relatively small number of students qualified to take up such fellowships and scholarships requires that the most effective measures be taken to ensure that all potential candidates be given the opportunity to apply and that their applications be duly considered,

1. *Endorses* the tribute paid by the Trusteeship Council to the generosity of those Member States which have offered facilities, and expresses the hope that additional offers will be forthcoming;

2. *Expresses regret* that, in the absence of a sufficient number of qualified candidates, only a small proportion of the fellowships and scholarships offered have been utilized;

3. *Invites* Member States, in renewing or initiating offers of facilities, to take into account the special needs of the Trust Territories arising from their generally low levels of education, and to contemplate the provision of facilities not only for university study but also for post-primary and technical education and training of kinds which may most effectively further the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Territories;

4. *Invites* Member States offering facilities, in cases where the languages of instruction differ from the languages of the Trust Territories, to consider the possibility of extending the duration of the facilities offered by a preliminary period of language training and other adjustment to the country of study or training;

5. *Recommends* that all Administering Authorities which have not done so give the fullest publicity in the Trust Territories under their administration to all offers of study and training facilities and take such other measures as will ensure that the greatest possible advantage is taken of the offers;

²⁰ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 4*.

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6. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council to undertake such amendment of its procedure for the administration of the project as may be necessary to permit applications to be made through the Secretary-General as well as through the territorial authorities, it being understood that upon receipt of any such applications the Secretary-General will transmit them simultaneously to the Administering Authorities and the offering States concerned;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in United Nations information material prepared for dissemination in the Trust Territories details of all such offers and of the procedures to be followed in submitting applications.

471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.

754 (VIII). Dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the opinion expressed in its resolution 556 (VI) of 18 January 1952 that it is essential that the peoples of Trust Territories should receive adequate information concerning the United Nations,

Observing that the existing arrangements for the supply of such information are based on Trusteeship Council resolution 36 (III) of 8 July 1948, which invites the Administering Authorities to furnish the Secretary-General (a) with the names and addresses of officials in the Trust Territories to whom suitable material should be sent for information, and (b) with suggestions as to the appropriate channels through which information concerning the United Nations may be communicated to the general public,

Noting, however, from the most recent report²¹ submitted to the Council by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the above-mentioned resolution, that while the Administering Authorities have submitted lists of names and addresses in accordance with the first part of the resolution, they have in no case made any specific suggestions concerning the dissemination of information to the inhabitants of the Trust Territories and to the general public,

Noting from the report that, as the Secretary-General had pointed out in his previous reports on the subject, and as had been emphasized by the observations of the Visiting Missions to West Africa and to the Pacific, which are summarized in the report, the dissemination of information on the United Nations to the peoples of the Trust Territories is still far from satisfactory,

1. *Expresses the opinion* that the existing arrangements for the dissemination in the Trust Territories of information on the United Nations are, in general, inadequate and of limited effectiveness;

2. *Invites* the Administering Authorities to furnish the Secretary-General, in accordance with Trusteeship Council resolution 36 (III) of 8 July 1948, with suggestions as to the appropriate channels through which information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System may be communicated to the general public in the Trust Territories (e.g., Press, radio, non-governmental organizations, trade unions, libraries, cultural, educational and religious institutions, teachers, missionaries, etc.);

²¹ See document T/1073.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to initiate at the earliest possible date, on the basis of the suggestions furnished by the Administering Authorities or his own knowledge of appropriate information channels, or by making use of both of these sources together, a direct flow of information material addressed to the General public in the Trust Territories;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his periodic reports on this matter to the Trusteeship Council lists of the channels of dissemination which he has established in pursuance of the present resolution.

471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.

755 (VIII). Attainment of independence by the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration by 1960

The General Assembly,

Taking into consideration the fact that, under General Assembly resolution 289 A (IV), adopted on 21 November 1949, the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration is to attain complete independence by 1960,

Mindful that it is necessary for that purpose that the people of Somaliland shall be prepared for self-government,

Considering that it is the duty of both the United Nations and the Administering Authority to take the necessary measures for the implementation of that decision,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the Administering Authority in Somaliland to fulfil the obligations laid down in the Charter and in the Trusteeship Agreement;

2. *Recommends* that the Administering Authority, in consultation with the Advisory Council, should continue to take the necessary steps to prepare the Somali people progressively for the attainment of complete independence, and to that end:

(a) The Territorial Council should be granted the powers of a legislative organ and its members should be elected by the people on the basis of universal adult suffrage;

(b) The administration of Somaliland should be progressively transferred to the indigenous inhabitants as a necessary preliminary to its assumption of independence;

(c) A general economic plan for the Territory should be completed without delay, taking into account the recommendations²² of the United Nations Technical Assistance Mission to the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration, particular attention being paid to methods for developing basic economic resources such as agriculture and stock-breeding, and to possibilities for improving and expanding existing industries;

(d) Efforts should be made to increase the revenue in order to balance the budget as soon as possible, and to that effect expenditures for military and police forces should be reduced to the indispensable minimum;

(e) Use of technical assistance facilities provided by the United Nations and the specialized agencies to assist in economic development and the improvement of social and educational conditions in the Territory should be encouraged;

²² See United Nations Publication, Sales Number: 1953.II.H.2.

(f) Efforts should be intensified to increase the number and improve the quality of public elementary and secondary schools; training for indigenous teachers should be expedited; a mass education programme should be instituted; attention should be devoted to vocational training, particularly in agricultural and veterinary science; and facilities for further studies should be expanded by granting an adequate number of scholarships to enable Somalis to take advanced training courses abroad;

(g) Review should be continued of all special legislation relating to Somaliland which was enacted prior to the trusteeship administration and which is still in effect, with a view to revising legislation found to be inconsistent with the letter or the spirit of the Trusteeship Agreement;

3. *Recommends* also to the Governments of Italy and Ethiopia that they should intensify their efforts to achieve a final, just, equitable and friendly settlement of the question of the frontier between the State of Ethiopia and the Trust Territory of Somaliland in order that this problem may be finally settled before the date appointed for the attainment of independence by Somaliland;

4. *Requests* the Advisory Council, in its annual report, to give precise information on the implementation of the present resolution, together with its observations, comments or suggestions as to the means of carrying out the recommendations contained in the resolution.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

756 (VIII). Report of the Trusteeship Council
The General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report²³ of the Trusteeship Council covering the period from 4 December 1952 to 21 July 1953;

2. *Recommends* that the Trusteeship Council, in its future deliberations, take into account the comments and suggestions made in the course of the discussion of the report of the Council at the eighth session of the General Assembly.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

757 (VIII). Petitions from the Ngoa-Ekéle Community, Cameroons under French administration, concerning adjustment of their land complaint

The General Assembly,

Having heard the declaration²⁴ and answers²⁵ of the representative of the Ngoa-Ekéle Community, Cameroons under French administration,

Bearing in mind the observations and explanations²⁶ given by the Administering Authority,

1. *Notes* the steps already taken by the Administering Authority to assist the Ngoa-Ekéle Community to settle on other lands;

2. *Suggests* to the Administering Authority to take all necessary steps which can in a satisfactory manner

²³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 4.*

²⁴ See document A/C.4/255.

²⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Fourth Committee, 382nd and 387th meetings.*

²⁶ *Ibid.*

alleviate the difficulties experienced by the Ngoa-Ekéle Community in the process of their re-establishment;

3. *Recommends* that assistance be also given by the Administering Authority to the Ngoa-Ekéle Community for it to avail itself of whatever legal recourse remains open in connexion with the lands on which they were originally settled and whatever further compensation might be possible;

4. *Recommends* to the Administering Authority to further its purpose of allotting to the Ngoa-Ekéle Community an adequate area of lands by delimiting these lands in accordance with the legal procedures obtaining in the Trust Territory;

5. *Invites* the Trusteeship Council to examine this question in the light of the present resolution and to include in its next report to the General Assembly the results of its examination.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

758 (VIII). Hearing of petitioners from the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Trusteeship Council has not yet considered the problems concerning the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration, which are referred to in resolution 655 (VII) adopted by the General Assembly on 21 December 1952,

Bearing in mind that the Council has stated in its report²⁷ that it will consider this matter at its next regular session,

Having again heard representatives of the organizations of the Cameroons under French administration,²⁸

1. *Reaffirms* resolution 655 (VII) adopted on 21 December 1952;

2. *Recommends* to the Trusteeship Council to give preferential attention to this matter at its next regular session;

3. *Also recommends* to the Council that, in considering this matter, it should also take into consideration the statements of the petitioners and the comments made by the members of the Fourth Committee at the current session of the General Assembly; and that it should include a special study of this matter in its report to the General Assembly for consideration at the ninth session.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

* * *

NOTE

ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

In accordance with the terms of resolutions 332 (IV) and 646 (VII), the Fourth Committee, at its 395th meeting on 7 December 1953, elected, on behalf of the General Assembly, two members to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories to fill the vacancies created by the expiration of the terms of office of Cuba and Pakistan.

The States elected were: BURMA and GUATEMALA.

²⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 4.*

²⁸ *Ibid.*, Fourth Committee, 388th, 393rd and 394th meetings.