



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Twenty-sixth Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

Friday, 27 May 1960,
at 10.45 a.m.

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration:</i>	
(i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year 1959;	
(ii) Petitions and communications raising general questions;	
(iii) Date of independence of the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration: report of the Administering Authority on the implementation of recommendations of the Trusteeship Council (General Assembly resolution 1418 (XIV))	
(iv) Report of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration	
Opening statements	281
<i>Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (continued):</i>	
(i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year 1958;	
(ii) Petitions and communications raising general questions;	
(iii) Report of the Administering Authority on the separation of the administration of the Northern Cameroons from that of Nigeria (General Assembly resolution 1473 (XIV))	
Consideration of draft resolution on the future of the Trust Territory.	287

President: Mr. Girolamo VITELLI (Italy).Present:

The representatives of the following States: Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Burma, China, France, India, Italy, New Zealand, Paraguay, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration:

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year 1959 (T/L.973);
- (ii) Petitions and communications raising general questions (T/PET.11/L.61-73; T/COM.11/L.332-346, 348-351, 354-360);
- (iii) Date of independence of the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration: report of the

- Administering Authority on the implementation of recommendations of the Trusteeship Council (General Assembly resolution 1418 (XIV)) (T/1534, T/1537);
- (iv) Report of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration (T/1516)

[Agenda items 3 (g), 4, 15 and 19]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Baradi (Philippines) and Mr. de Holte Castello (Colombia), representatives of States members of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration, and Mr. Fettareppa-Sandri, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory, took places at the Council table.

OPENING STATEMENTS

1. Mr. PLAJA (Italy) recalled that at its fourteenth session the General Assembly had welcomed the decision of the Government of Italy and the Somali Government and people to advance the date of independence of the Trust Territory to 1 July 1960 and had resolved that on that date the Trusteeship Agreement would cease to be in force. In a few weeks, therefore, Somaliland would become independent and the objectives set forth in the United Nations Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement would have been attained. In the light of those circumstances, he would confine his statement to the fundamentals, having particularly in mind two points: firstly, the most recent developments relating to the matters dealt with in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 1418 (XIV) and, secondly, the economic future of the independent State of Somalia.

2. He would like to take the present occasion, which would be the last time that the United Nations Advisory Council for Somaliland and the representative of the Administering Authority would participate together in a debate at the United Nations, to express the Italian Government's appreciation of the aid and advice which the Advisory Council had constantly rendered. He would like to thank particularly each one of the present members—the Chairman Mr. Baradi, Mr. de Holte Castello and Mr. El-Zayat—as well as the past members; and he would pay a special tribute to the memory of Mr. Kamal Eddine Salah, who had lost his life in the Council's service.

3. The ten years that had elapsed since Italy had undertaken to help Somaliland towards independence reflected great credit on the Somali people and their leaders. The political picture of Somaliland at the beginning of the period of trusteeship had been scarcely encouraging. The endeavours of the four Administrators who had had responsibility in the Territory—Ambassadors Fornari, Martino, Anzilotti and Di Stefano—had been rewarded in the progressive setting up and functioning of democratic institutions. In the first

years, the Italian Administration had been successful in establishing local institutions and had begun to train the Somali people in the responsibilities of self-government. At the local level, district and municipal councils had been established and at the governmental level a Territorial Council had been set up to assist the Administering Authority until a fully-fledged statutory and elected legislature could be established. The establishment of the Territorial Council had proved to be a most important step; not only had the Council provided the representatives with training in the intricacies of a modern parliamentary system but it had become an especially useful instrument for obtaining Somali co-operation; an atmosphere of mutual confidence between the Administration and the people had developed which had greatly enhanced the chances of successfully meeting the target date for independence.

4. As early as March 1954 administrative elections had been held in thirty-five municipalities and in April 1954 the Municipal Council of Mogadiscio had been inaugurated. That event had ushered in the second phase of development: the stage when the actual exercise of power rested in the hands of the Somalis. In February 1956 the Somalis had gone to the polls, in the first political election in their history, to transform the Territorial Council into an elected legislature; and in May 1956 the first elected Legislative Assembly of Somaliland had been convened. The process of Somaliization had proceeded regularly; more and more Somalis had taken over important posts in the Administration and were exercising full responsibility in the various aspects of public life. New elections had been held at the local administrative level at the end of 1958 and at the national political level in March 1959. In the light of those developments, the decision to advance the date for independence had come as a natural and welcome consequence.

5. With regard to the implementation of the recommendations made by the Trusteeship Council at its twenty-fourth session^{1/} and of General Assembly resolution 1418 (XIV), he said that on 25 January 1960 a law had been enacted under which the elected Legislative Assembly of the Trust Territory had become the Constituent Assembly, with full powers to prepare and adopt the Constitution of Somalia. The law gave the Assembly exclusive competence in the matter of its organization and rules and explicitly stated that the powers of sanction and promulgation vested in the Administrator would not be applicable to the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly. It was therefore up to the Constituent Assembly, in the exercise of its exclusive powers, to take the decision in respect to the above-mentioned recommendations, to which however the Administering Authority had never failed to draw the attention of the Somali authorities and people.

6. He was glad to report several steps taken by the Constituent Assembly which, in his opinion, constituted full implementation of the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly. Firstly, it had broadened its Political Committee to allow of the inclusion of representatives of all political parties and of other important social, cultural and economic organizations in the Territory. Unfortunately, the opposition parties had not found it possible to participate in the Political Committee, since they had attached to their participation conditions which by their

very nature could only be fulfilled at a later stage in the work of the Constituent Assembly. His Government sincerely hoped that the opposition parties would still find it possible to participate in the forthcoming steps in the elaboration of the Constitution. Secondly, the Constituent Assembly had broadened its own membership. The Administering Authority had never concealed from the Council and the General Assembly the difficulties of such broadening, since elected members of a body at the highest legislative level could hardly be expected to share their responsibilities with non-elected members. It therefore felt that the Constituent Assembly had displayed a high degree of political statesmanship when, on 21 May, it had adopted its motion No. 3 inviting twenty members of national organizations to participate in its work. Thirdly, the Assembly had decided that the Constitution should be submitted to a popular referendum within one year of its provisional enactment.

7. The final draft of the Constitution, which had been prepared by the Political Committee of the Constituent Assembly, was now under consideration by the Assembly. A number of articles had already been adopted and the Assembly would probably complete its task by the end of May or in the first days of June. He did not propose to give a detailed review of the draft Constitution, an outline of which was to be found in document T/1534, but he would draw attention to one point to which the Council had in the past devoted special attention: the question of the promulgation of the Constitution and the election of the Head of the Somali State. In the plan for the transfer of powers submitted to the Trusteeship Council at its twenty-fourth session (T/1477) several possibilities had been considered but the decision had been left to the Constituent Assembly. According to the transitional provisions of the draft Constitution, the Assembly would, before 1 July 1960, elect a provisional President of the Republic, who would on that date promulgate the Constitution, which would enter into force provisionally, subject, i.e., to the above-mentioned referendum.

8. Revision of the electoral law could not be undertaken until the Constitution had been adopted. As a matter of fact, the Constitution itself would include various fundamental principles concerning elections which would later be embodied in the revised electoral law. Minor amendments had, however, been made to the electoral law of 12 December 1958. Furthermore, Act No. 3, enacted on 12 February 1960, had provided comprehensive regulations with regard to citizenship. Finally, the Somali Government had declared its intention of taking a census of the population of the whole country as soon as possible.

9. With regard to the Currency Circulation Agency (Somalcassa), the Administrator, addressing the Legislative Assembly on 30 April 1960, had stated that it had assumed the functions of a central bank in 1959, that its banking department had already been transferred to Mogadiscio and that the issuing department would be transferred to Somaliland as soon as possible. A number of Somalis were receiving intensive training in banking and exchange matters.

10. A further development in the political field was the establishment of a national army. On 3 February 1960 the Legislative Assembly had unanimously enacted a law delegating to the Government the power to adopt special financial measures to cover the expenditure that the establishment of the army would entail.

^{1/} See A/4100, part II, chap. III.

11. Somaliland was not, of course, without its share of internal political problems. Unfortunately, the opposition parties were not co-operating to the desired extent in the present phase of the preparation of the Constitution but the Administering Authority was confident that such co-operation would be forthcoming in the near future. The fact that different groups of Somali leaders, overcoming their political differences, had at the twenty-fourth session (1014th meeting) joined in a common declaration to the Trusteeship Council showed that the Somalis could unite in the country's national interest and gave rise to the highest hope with regard to the political awareness of the Somali people, which was the best guarantee of their freedom and independence.

12. Before concluding his remarks on political progress, he wished to comment on a new development which was in the making in that part of Africa. It had been reported that certain constitutional developments, the course of which had certainly been accelerated by the imminent independence of the Trust Territory, would bring independence to the neighbouring Protectorate of Somaliland in June 1960. The peoples of the two territories had already, by democratic means, shown their desire to unite in a single independent State. Such a development, which would occur after the Trust Territory had attained independence, was not of course within the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement and it transcended the responsibility of the Government of Italy as an Administering Authority. That event would be the result of the converging aspirations of the people in the two Somali territories. It was Italy's wish that it would take place—as indeed seemed to be the case—according to democratic processes and that it would be in the interest of the prosperity and welfare of both peoples and of the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the area.

13. The independence of the new Somali State would not rest on firm ground had its economic foundations not been carefully prepared. This the Administering Authority had endeavoured to do by utilizing the available means in the best possible way. During the past ten years the Administering Authority had contributed the equivalent of some \$100 million to the needs of the Trust Territory. Thanks to the implementation of a seven-year development plan, which was now nearing completion, general conditions had so improved that it would probably be possible to achieve a balanced budget and a favourable balance of payments within a foreseeable, though not immediate, future. The deficit in the balance of trade had decreased from 38 million somalos in 1951 to 8 million in 1959. The national income during the same period had tripled. The national revenue had increased from 21 million somalos in 1951 to an estimated 71 million somalos in 1960. More, of course, would have to be done to ensure the entire Somali nation a higher level of living. Italy, as well as other friendly countries, would not fail to provide the Government of Somalia with further substantial assistance in the future. He confirmed the declarations in that respect made on the part of the Italian Government at previous sessions of the Trusteeship Council. He added that, in order to avoid any difficulty at the beginning of Somali's independent life, the Italian Government had undertaken to contribute to the financial requirements of the Somali Government for the whole year 1960, notwithstanding the fact that the date of independence had been advanced to 1 July.

14. The Administering Authority gratefully acknowledged the contribution made by the United Nations and its specialized agencies through the technical assistance programmes. The Somali authorities were already initiating closer contacts with the competent United Nations officials in order to increase the assistance offered under those programmes and by the Special Fund in the field of pre-investment, which could facilitate the further development of Somalia's economy.

15. The Administering Authority had continued to give attention to the economic requirements of Somalia after independence. Surveys in that respect had been made at different times by Italian economic research organizations and by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The Administration had constantly brought their data up to date and a new survey had recently been completed by another Italian research organization, which had made an effort to extend the forecast of various elements of Somali economic development to 1964. That survey had enabled the Administration to review the previous data in a more favourable light and offered a brighter outlook for the future. He would mention some of those data. In 1958 the balance of payments deficit for 1962 had been estimated at \$5 million; it was estimated now at \$3.8 million. The reduction was based upon an expected increase in the volume of total exports, in which the traditional exports of the Territory—bananas, canned fish and meat, skins and hides—would continue to have a major role. That development naturally depended upon the Italian Government's assurance that it would continue to import the present quota of bananas from Somalia. With regard to the public budget estimates for 1962 made in 1958, anticipated revenues had been \$8.4 million, whereas today's estimates \$12.6 million. That was due, on the one hand, to improvement in the tax system and to the increased civic awareness of the Somali people, and, on the other, to the more prosperous economic situation of the country, which was expected to result in an increase in the general level of income in the Territory. The increase in revenue would enable the country to increase its expenditure without recourse to increased outside aid. The survey also assessed in greater detail the possibility of implementing economic development plans. While the lines of the basic development plan conceived in 1958 had been shown to be sound, it had been considered advisable, in the light of the more favourable outlook for the future, to extend the planning to include more ambitious projects for the development of an economic infrastructure. Their implementation would, of course, depend upon increased outside aid.

16. The basic economic development plan was the 1958 plan, with minor changes; the part allotted to road-building, improvement of the port facilities of Mogadiscio and Merca, and slum clearance had been expanded and the cost of implementing the basic plan was now estimated at a total of \$7.2 million for the years 1960-1964, i.e., an average of 1.8 million per year, against the previous estimate of 1.5 million per year.

17. The more recently formulated plans, consisting of a number of projects at different stages of elaboration, concerned an expansion of the programmes of road-building, agricultural improvement and water research; the Mogadiscio aqueduct; further improvements of the port facilities of Mogadiscio and Chisi-

maio; improvement of the Mogadiscio airport and of airstrips elsewhere; the transformation of the Bubasci Reserve into a national park; and the raising of capital for financing medium-term and long-term credit. The realization of those plans would depend upon the availability of more public investments derived from outside. The Somali Government would welcome assistance from the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

18. In conclusion, he asked the President to give the floor to Hajji Farah Ali Omar, the Minister of Industry and Commerce of the Somali Government, who was present as a member of the Italian delegation.

19. Hajji FARAH ALI OMAR (Italy) expressed the gratitude of the Somali Parliament, Government and people for the work done by the United Nations for the benefit of their country. In particular he wished to thank the Trusteeship Council for its assistance and advice and for the confidence it had shown that the Somali people possessed the qualities necessary to achieve independence in the short period of ten years. He was happy to see the Trusteeship Council presided over by the representative of Italy, whose country had carried out loyally and successfully its task of guiding the people of Somaliland along the road to independence under the aegis of the United Nations.

20. He wished to pay a tribute also to the United Nations Advisory Council, the members of which had given untiring assistance to the Parliament, the Government, the political parties, the organizations and the citizens of Somaliland in building a new State.

21. Lastly, he addressed a special work of thanks to the Technical Assistance Board, to the specialized agencies and to the Special Fund for all they had done in the fields of education, health, nutrition, and above all economic development.

22. At the present time the Somali people were working hard to complete the constitutional, legislative and administrative organization of their country, which in barely five weeks would celebrate the achievement of independence. In view of that circumstance, he would confine himself to a brief survey of the progress made by Somaliland in political, economic, educational and social development.

23. The central and territorial organization of the Somali Government had continued during the year under review. On 1 May 1960 the Somali Government had taken over the Planning Office, in compliance with the provisions of the plan for the transfer of powers (T/1477). The Government was now preparing to assume the remaining powers, i.e., defence, foreign relations and currency. Full constitutional powers had been granted to the Legislative Assembly by Act No. 6 of 8 January 1960. By a decision of 23 March 1960 the Constituent Assembly had established a Political Committee entrusted with the drafting of the Constitution. In conformity with the recommendation adopted by the Trusteeship Council at its twenty-fourth session, the Committee's composition had been broadened to include representatives of all political parties and of religious, cultural, economic and labour organizations. Unfortunately, however, some of the political parties had been unable to accept the invitation extended by the President of the Constituent Assembly to participate in the work of the Committee.

24. In compliance with a further recommendation of the Trusteeship Council, the composition of the Con-

stituent Assembly, too, had been broadened: under a decision of 21 May 1960 it would include, over and above the members of the Legislative Assembly, twenty representatives of political parties and of economic, social, cultural and religious organizations. Until the Constitution was finally approved by the Constituent Assembly the twenty new members would be entitled to the same allowances and immunities as the elected members.

25. Also in accordance with a recommendation of the Trusteeship Council, the Constituent Assembly had decided that the Constitution drafted by the Political Committee would be submitted to the approval of the Somali people by means of a referendum. The Political Committee had concluded its work on 11 May 1960 and the draft Constitution was now being considered by the Constituent Assembly, which would approve it before the date of the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement so that on the day of independence Somalia would have its first constitutional charter setting forth the fundamental principles regulating the organization of the State and the rights and obligations of the citizens. The draft Constitution was of course based on the Declaration of Constitutional Principles annexed to the Trusteeship Agreement and on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

26. He expressed his Government's appreciation of the Administering Authority's action in considering all matters pertaining to the preparation of the Constitution to be reserved exclusively for the deliberations and decisions of the Constituent Assembly.

27. In accordance with another recommendation of the Trusteeship Council, his Government intended to proceed as soon as possible to compile an accurate electoral register and to resume the population census which had been discontinued in 1958, for reasons known to the Council.

28. The law on Somali citizenship had now been enacted and made complete provision for the acquisition of citizenship by birth, by law and by naturalization. The questions of citizenship and of foreign investment had been regulated by Act No. 9 of 12 February 1960 and Act No. 10 of 18 February 1960 respectively. The Legislative Assembly would shortly take up for consideration a land ordinance, a banking law and a law on the national bank of Somalia. Thus all the fundamental laws of the country would be in force by the date of independence and would form a solid foundation for the strengthening and development of the country's democratic institutions.

29. Economic progress had been outstanding and promised well for the stability of the future independent State of Somalia. In that connexion he drew attention to paragraph 121 of the report of the United Nations Advisory Council (T/1516). In the light of the achievements described in that paragraph it might be reasonably concluded that the conditions existed for the attainment of an ever-increasing degree of economic self-sufficiency. The figures for revenue for 1960 showed a 123 per cent increase over those for 1956; those for expenditure a 60 per cent increase; the deficit had decreased by 38 per cent; imports for 1959 showed an increase of 14 per cent over those for 1956 and exports an increase of 62 per cent for the same period. National income had more than doubled since 1956 and there had been a considerable increase in the consumption of basic consumer goods.

30. The Somali Government realized that it must see that that progress continued and that the economic plans were strictly adhered to in order that the goal of self-sufficiency might really be attained. Italy and other friendly countries had promised the Somali Government sufficient assistance to enable the independent State of Somalia to balance its budget and to carry out development plans in agriculture, animal husbandry, water research, communications, fisheries and slum clearance. That assistance would enable the new State to face its economic future and to launch plans for the early attainment of self-sufficiency, thereby ensuring economic and financial stability as prerequisites to social and political stability.

31. The Italian Administration, together with the Somali Government, had considered a number of projects of greater import and requiring ampler means. Clearly their implementation would hinge on financing, which had not been forthcoming so far. The Somali Government hoped that the United Nations and the organizations set up for the development of under-developed areas would find it possible to take part in financing those projects.

32. In order to encourage foreign investment the Legislative Assembly had enacted Act No. 10 of 18 February 1960, which contained guarantees of property rights and provisions regulating foreign investments. The law was both liberal and modern in concept and was expected to succeed in attracting new investments.

33. He expressed his Government's gratitude to the competent organs of the United Nations for the decision to increase technical assistance to Somalia over the period 1961-1962. The additional amount would be spent in basic investments for the purpose of attracting public and private capital.

34. The reports of the Administering Authority and of the Advisory Council dealt at length with the progress achieved in education, health and labour. There was ample statistical evidence that the Somali people were determined to rely on a firm educational foundation for their continuing progress.

35. With the assistance of the Administering Authority and of WHO and UNICEF it has been possible to improve the preventive medical services and medical treatment for social diseases. The campaigns against tuberculosis and malaria were being carried on on a national basis and with ever-increasing personnel and financial means.

36. Women had the right to vote and to stand for election and, in accordance with the new Labour Code, were entitled to equal pay for equal work. The trade unions and labour federations were on their way to being fully organized for the protection of the workers' interests. The system of "arifato" had been abolished, which constituted a considerable step forward with regard to land tenure.

37. He was convinced that he had given a faithful picture of the evolution which had taken place in his country and one which should assure the Council of the thorough preparation of the Somali people for the responsibilities they would shortly assume. Their maturity and readiness had been solemnly acknowledged by the United Nations General Assembly by the adoption of resolution 1418 (XIV), which had advanced the date of independence from 2 December 1960 to 1 July 1960. That decision did honour to the Somali people and was a great encouragement to their leaders,

who were about to assume the responsibility of guiding and governing a new State which, on its attainment of independence, would achieve unification with the former Protectorate of Somaliland. The Protectorate was due to become independent on 26 June 1960 and would join independent Somalia by virtue of a decision adopted by the representatives of the two peoples. At the conference held at Mogadiscio in April 1960 it had been agreed that the two territories should unite on 1 July 1960 and that the Government of the new Republic would be unitarian, democratic and parliamentary. That union was, for Somalia, of no less importance than independence itself. He expressed his Government's gratitude to the United Kingdom Government for the understanding it had shown, during the recent talks in London, of the aspirations of the Somalis in the Protectorate and of their wish to unite with Somalia.

38. Mr. BARADI (Philippines), Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration, introduced the Council's report for the period from 1 April 1959 to 31 March 1960 (T/1516). Unlike previous reports submitted by the Council, it reviewed the progress made over the whole of the past ten years, described the most important issues with which the Territory was concerned at the present time and outlined some of the problems which would confront the Somali Government and people after the attainment of independence.

39. The most significant developments which had taken place during the period under review had been in the political field. General Assembly resolution 1418 (XIV) calling for the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement five months in advance of the date originally scheduled had necessitated an acceleration of the final arrangements for the transfer of powers from the Administering Authority to the Somali Government. He would like to summarize what had been done to implement the Trusteeship Council's recommendations and observations concerning the broadening of the composition of the Political Committee and the Constituent Assembly, a popular confirmation of the Constitution now under preparation through a referendum, and a modification of the existing electoral law. Within that framework he would endeavour to show the progress achieved in the development of political institutions and in the arrangements for the country's accession to independence.

40. In February 1960 legislation had been enacted conferring powers on the Legislative Assembly to draft and approve a Constitution; that Constitution would not be subject to the approval of the Administrator, a provision which was in conformity with the statement by the Administering Authority that the drafting and promulgation of the Constitution were entirely within the competence of the Somalis themselves. The Somali Government had also appointed a Minister without Portfolio who was to be in charge of all matters relating to the Constitution. The Constituent Assembly had met for the first time on 17 March 1960 and had subsequently established a drafting Political Committee to replace the former Political Committee, including in its membership two representatives of each of the political parties and representatives of various groups and interests. In written statements submitted to the President of the Assembly the opposition parties had requested guarantees that all recommendations of the Trusteeship Council, in particular that concerning the broadening of the Constituent Assembly, should be implemented. In his reply the

President of the Assembly had declared that the decision in the matter rested with the Constituent Assembly itself. The latest information received from Mogadiscio indicated that the Constituent Assembly had decided to broaden its composition to include representatives of political parties and other national organizations in the same manner and to the same extent as they were included in the composition of the drafting Political Committee. Twenty new members in all would be added to the present eighty-eight members of the Assembly.

41. The drafting Political Committee had begun its work on 2 April, having before it the draft Constitution formulated by the Technical Committee in November 1958, in the preparation of which experts appointed by the Advisory Council had participated, and a new draft prepared by the Minister without Portfolio, which retained the main features of the Technical Committee's draft and presented its provisions in a condensed form. The Advisory Council, on the basis of an arrangement agreed upon with the Administering Authority, had informed the President of the Constituent Assembly of its satisfaction that the draft provided the basis for the establishment of an independent, democratic and representative republic but at the same time it had drawn his attention to the omission of certain clauses concerning human rights which had been included in the Technical Committee's draft. The drafting Political Committee had concluded its work on 9 May 1960 and had submitted to the Constituent Assembly its own revised draft, which reinstated those human rights provisions. The Assembly had begun its examination of the text on 16 May and was scheduled to complete its work by 31 May. The final vote on the Constitution would be taken by roll-call and the decision would be by an absolute majority.

42. The Assembly had also decided that, as recommended by the Trusteeship Council, there should be a referendum for the approval of the Constitution. The date of the referendum had not yet been fixed but the new draft Constitution submitted by the drafting Political Committee to the Constituent Assembly stipulated that the Constitution was to enter into force on 1 July 1960 on a provisional basis and was to be voted on in a popular referendum within one year following that date. It would be the duty of the Somali Court of Justice to vouch for the regularity of the referendum. If the results of the referendum were favourable the Constitution would be considered final. If they were unfavourable the Constituent Assembly would have to draw up a new Constitution to be submitted to a second referendum within six months following the appointment of the new provisional President.

43. Under the new draft Constitution the Assembly would elect the provisional Head of State, namely, the President of the Republic, before the Constitution entered into force and he would remain in office until a presidential election took place in accordance with the terms of the Constitution as finally approved.

44. Following the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council and the Advisory Council, the Legislative Assembly had enacted a comprehensive citizenship law in February 1960. It was based on the principle of *jus sanguinis* and to a large extent incorporated the general principles of modern nationality laws. It ensured *inter alia* the unity of the family and protected the rights of Somali women and children.

45. In February 1960 the Legislative Assembly had unanimously approved a law originating in the Assembly itself which delegated to the Government the power to provide funds for the establishment of a national army. The Army which had accordingly been established in the following month was to consist initially of 3,000 men and was later to be increased to 5,000. In April the former Vice-Commanding Officer of the Police Force had been appointed Commander of the new Army and during the current month the Government had issued a proclamation stating the conditions for the enlistment of the first 2,000 volunteers. The draft Constitution provided that the President of the Republic should be Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces. The Police Force, incidentally, would be seriously in need of equipment after the Territory became independent.

46. The responsibility for foreign affairs still lay with the Administering Authority and under the plan for the transfer of powers would be assumed by the Somali Government when independence was proclaimed. The Administrator had stated that the Somali Government was now free to organize a Ministry of Foreign Affairs which could begin to function on 1 July 1960.

47. In a comparatively short time, and in a spirit of mutual understanding and co-operation, the Administering Authority and the Somali Government and people had succeeded in laying the foundation for an independent State and for the final transfer of sovereignty. The Advisory Council wished to congratulate them on that achievement and to express the hope that another important problem, that of the Somali-Ethiopian frontier, would be settled to the satisfaction of both countries.

48. As far as the movement for uniting the future State of Somalia with the present British Somaliland Protectorate was concerned, the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority had recognized that the matter was one which it was not within the competence of either to consider.

49. The economic progress made by the Territory during the period of trusteeship would enable it to satisfy many of its needs from its own resources. Several of the structural weaknesses of the economy previously pointed out by the Advisory Council persisted, however, including the need to develop the infrastructure, to expand manufacturing and to diversify crops and markets. Banana production and marketing, for example, needed to be put on a more competitive basis. Among the favourable aspects of the Territory's economic situation were the decrease in its international trade deficit and its budget deficit, despite the rise in imports and in budget expenditure. It would still be dependent on external assistance for the development of its natural resources and would continue to need help in various technical and administrative fields, but the Advisory Council was happy to note that previous forecasts of its minimum requirements in outside financial aid had been on the pessimistic side. The anticipated unification of Somalia with the Somaliland Protectorate might give rise to new administrative and economic problems but it might also increase opportunities for internal trade and provide a wider base for international trade. Certain questions relating to the transfer of powers in the economic field, notably the transfer of Somalclissa to Somali hands and the matter of a settlement in connexion with the past profits of that agency, were still pending, as was the

question of the conditions under which the equipment and control of the aeronautical service were to be transferred.

50. In the social and educational field a great deal had been accomplished with limited resources in a very short time. In 1950 there had been no modern social institutions in the Territory and no organized system of public education, the rate of illiteracy had been high, medical and hospital facilities had been lacking, tuberculosis and malaria had been widely prevalent, there had been no labour or social security legislation and women had played no part in civic life. As the report of the Advisory Council showed, a public school system including free primary, secondary, vocational and higher education had now been established, illiteracy had been reduced, women enjoyed the right to vote and participated actively in the professional and social life of the community, the incidence of the most serious diseases had been reduced, health facilities had been improved, workers could organize trade unions and negotiate collective bargaining agreements, Somali workers were compulsorily insured against accidents in a wide range of jobs and hundreds of Somalis were being sent abroad for further training under the provisions of various scholarship programmes, a circumstance which was helping to promote the Somalization of the Administration. In all those endeavours the assistance given by the Administering Authority, by the United Nations and its specialized agencies and by friendly nations, particularly the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, had been invaluable. Much remained to be done, however, and Somalia would continue to need help and encouragement for some time to come.

51. In conclusion, he recalled the contribution to the Territory's progress made by earlier members of the Advisory Council, by the successive Italian Administrators, with whom the members of the Advisory Council had been closely associated throughout the period of trusteeship, and by the members of the Trusteeship Council, the specialized agencies and the United Nations Secretariat. Within the Trusteeship System the concept of United Nations responsibility for the advancement of Trust Territories had in no case been more successfully applied than in that of Somaliland under Italian administration. The members of the Advisory Council would be happy if they could think that their own efforts had contributed to the success of the United Nations mission in that Territory.

52. Mr. DE HOLTE CASTELLO (Colombia), member of the United Nations Advisory Council for Somaliland, recalled that on his arrival in Somaliland some ten years earlier it had been a very poor Territory with many backward tribal customs, and the difficulties of administration had been many. In 1950 and 1951 the Administration had, by strenuous efforts, been able to establish a Territorial Council; the Territorial Council had later been transformed into a Legislative Assembly and finally into a Constituent Assembly, which was considering the country's future Constitution. In 1950, and for some subsequent years, not a single Somali had been employed by the Administration. By 1959 there had been some 200 Somalis in the Administration exercising full responsibility. The national income, which had been about 33 million somalos in 1950 and 1951, had now risen to some 71 million

somalos. Direct taxes had been increased and the budget had now reached a total of about 1,600 million somalos. Worthy of particular mention were the advances made in agriculture and animal husbandry, the sinking of wells and the damming of the rivers. The number of primary schools had increased from twenty-eight in 1950 to 164 at the present time and the number of pupils from 3,300 to 18,337. The number of secondary schools had increased from five to forty-two and the pupils from 135 to 1,050. In 1951, and indeed until 1955, it had seemed very doubtful whether Somali women would be able to take part in managing the affairs of the country. They now enjoyed the right to vote. Scholarships granted to Somalis by the Italian Government now totalled 711, while, the assistance given by the Government of Egypt made it possible for over 120 Somalis to study at the University of Cairo and provided competent teaching personnel in Somaliland itself.

53. The Advisory Council had always done its utmost to assist the Administration and the Somali people. The development of Somaliland during the past ten years had been nothing short of miraculous and the miracle had been performed by the Somali people, whose efforts had enabled the Administering Authority not only to adhere to but even to advance the date of independence set by the General Assembly.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/1526, T/L.979) (continued):

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year 1958 (T/1494, T/1499, T/1524, T/1527, T/L.956 and Add.1);
- (ii) Petitions and communications raising general questions (T/PET.4/L.12-83; T/PET.4 and 5/L.35-74; T/COM.4/L.33, 36-38, 40, 42-47, 49-52; T/COM.4 and 5/L.3-6);
- (iii) Report of the Administering Authority on the separation of the administration of the Northern Cameroons from that of Nigeria (General Assembly resolution 1473 (XIV)) (T/1530, T/1531)

[Agenda items 3 (e), 4 and 17]

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE FUTURE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY (T/L.979)

54. Mr. SALAMANCA (Bolivia) submitted the joint draft resolution sponsored by the delegations of Bolivia, Burma, India and the United Arab Republic (T/L.979). He drew particular attention to operative paragraph 4, which would make it unnecessary to appoint a drafting committee to draft recommendations to the General Assembly.

55. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) asked for a separate vote on operative paragraph 2.

56. Mr. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET (France) and Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) said that although no French text of the draft resolution had been circulated they were willing to vote on it in order to expedite the Council's work.

57. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he would be unable to vote on the draft resolution until the Russian text had been circu-

lated. He therefore proposed that consideration of the draft resolution should be postponed to the following meeting.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.