



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Thirteenth Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

Monday, 22 March 1954,
at 2.15 p.m.

NEW YORK

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President: Mr. Leslie Knox MUNRO (New Zealand).

Present:

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Australia, Belgium, China, El Salvador, France, Haiti, India, New Zealand, Syria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The representative of the following State non-member of the Trusteeship Council: Italy.

Examination of petitions (*continued*)

[Agenda item 4]

SIXTIETH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.415): PETITIONS CONCERNING TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

1. The PRESIDENT invited the members of the Council to consider the draft resolutions in the report before it (T/L.415).

2. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that draft resolution I completely ignored the petitioner's allegation that he had been expelled from the Gold Coast because of his political opinions. He would therefore be obliged to vote against it.

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

3. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the Standing Committee on Petitions had been unable to agree on a draft resolution on the petition in document T/PET.6/326 and Add.1. It had therefore submitted two alternative proposals (T/L.415, para. 12), on which the Council would have to vote.

Alternative A was rejected by 6 votes to 5.

Alternative B was adopted by 6 votes to 5.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

4. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation in paragraph 3 of the introduction to the report.

The recommendation was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

5. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) regretted that he had been absent when the vote had been taken on the alternative draft resolutions concerning petition T/PET.6/326 and Add. 1. Had he been present, he would have voted in favour of alternative A.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration (*continued*)

[Agenda items 3 (f), 4 and 5]

REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE (T/L.409 AND Add.1, T/L.431, T/L.439)

6. Mr. PIGNON (France) said that most of the Drafting Committee's recommendations were acceptable to his Government, with the exception of that in paragraph 17, with regard to which he expressed a formal reservation. There were three objections to that recommendation: first, it failed to give sufficient weight to the observations in paragraph 126 of the report (T/1041) of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, 1952; secondly, it would be absurd to base a recommendation in 1954 on opinions formed by the Visiting Mission in 1952; thirdly, the recommendation ignored the repeated assurances given by the French delegation at the seventh and eighth sessions of the General Assembly, and the statement in the Administering Authority's observations (T/1068) concerning paragraph 126 of the Visiting Mission's report, that any police officer who misused the limited power he possessed would immediately be severely punished and that no such case had been noted up to that date. In view of those facts he would be unable to vote for paragraph 17 or for the report as a whole.

7. The PRESIDENT asked the Council to vote on the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 6 to 21, inclusive, of the report (T/L.431).

Paragraph 6 was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

8. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he had voted against paragraph 6 because it included a statement that the peoples of the Trust Territories would be free to achieve their aspirations outside the French Union, if they so desired, upon the termination of the Trusteeship System. To make the achievement of self-government or independence dependent upon the termination of the Trusteeship System was contrary to the Charter.

Paragraph 7 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

9. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he would vote against paragraph 8 because the system of customary dues was a survival of feudal exploitation and the commutation of payments in kind and services into money payments would not be a solution of the problem.

Paragraph 8 was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

10. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the beginning of paragraph 9 should be amended to read: "The Council recommends to the Administering Authority that it intensify its efforts to train qualified Africans ..."

A vote was taken on the USSR proposal.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 against.

After a brief recess in accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure, a second vote was taken.

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

Paragraph 9 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

11. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for a separate vote on the phrase "urges the political parties in the Territory to conduct their activities with a sense of high responsibility", in paragraph 10.

The first part of the paragraph, from "The Council notes" down to "in the Territory" was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The second part, from "urges" down to "high responsibility" was adopted by 9 votes to 2, with 1 abstention.

The last part, from "and expresses the hope" to the end, was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

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

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

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

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

12. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) proposed the insertion of the following new paragraph between paragraphs 13 and 14, to be headed "Judicial organization":

"The Council has considered the measures adopted in respect of judicial organization. It recommends the Administering Authority to increase the number of such measures with a view to making the principle of the separation of administrative and judicial powers applicable to the indigenous judicial authorities and to take such action that the courts of the Territory should be rendered independent of those sitting in other territories of the French Union."

13. Mr. PIGNON (France) said that he would be unable to vote for the Syrian proposal in view of the impracticability of putting it into effect in the immediate future.

A vote was taken on the Syrian proposal.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 against.

After a brief recess in accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure, a second vote was taken.

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

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

Paragraph 15 was adopted unanimously.

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

14. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) proposed the following new text for paragraph 17:

"The Council, noting that in 1952 the Visiting Mission suggested that the Administering Authority should take steps to see that the police detailed to maintain order at public meetings did not exceed their authority, and noting also the statements made by the Administering Authority to the effect that such steps had since been taken, recommends that this matter be kept under constant review by the Administering Authority, and expresses the hope that persons assembled at public meetings will conduct themselves with a due respect for the need for maintaining public order."

15. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the second sentence of paragraph 17 should be deleted.

16. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) felt that the United Kingdom text was a new proposal rather than a mere amendment and should therefore be voted on before the USSR proposal. Furthermore, he pointed out that, whether the United Kingdom proposal were adopted or not, there would still have to be a vote on the USSR proposal, since the sentence to which it referred appeared in both the original text and the United Kingdom text.

17. The PRESIDENT ruled that the United Kingdom proposal was an amendment and should be voted on after the USSR proposal.

18. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) challenged the President's ruling.

A vote was taken on the Syrian motion.

There were 5 votes in favour, 5 against and 2 abstentions.

After a brief recess in accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure, a second vote was taken.

The motion was adopted by 5 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions.

19. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for a separate vote on the last part of the United Kingdom text, from "and expresses the hope ..."

The first part of the United Kingdom text was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The second part of the United Kingdom text was adopted by 6 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

The United Kingdom text for paragraph 17 as a whole was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

20. Mr. McKAY (United States of America), speaking in explanation of his vote, said that he had had no objection to the United Kingdom proposal, since he recognized the validity of the second and third points mentioned by the French representative. Nevertheless he had been unable to vote for the United Kingdom text because it introduced an important change of substance to the text agreed on by the Drafting Committee. He had therefore abstained.

Paragraph 18 was adopted unanimously.

21. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for a separate vote on the second sentence of paragraph 19.

The first sentence of paragraph 19 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The second sentence was adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 19 as a whole was adopted unanimously.

22. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked that paragraph 20 should be voted on in two parts: from the beginning down to the words "expanding programme", and from "The Council therefore urges ..." to the end of the paragraph.

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

The second part was adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 20 as a whole was adopted unanimously.

23. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) proposed the addition of the following sentence at the end of paragraph 21: "The Council further hopes that the Administering Authority will increase the number of scholarships".

The Syrian proposal was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

24. Mr. McKAY (United States of America) said that he had abstained because the number of scholarships had already been increased, and he believed the Syrian proposal should therefore have read "will continue to increase".

Paragraph 21, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

25. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation in paragraph 5 of the report (T/L.431).

The recommendation was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

26. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he could not endorse the statement in paragraph 4 of the report that the conclusions and recommendations drafted by the Committee reflected the opinions of the Council as a whole. He asked that a vote should be taken on the paragraph.

27. The PRESIDENT explained that he could not put the paragraph to the vote, since it was an expression of opinion by the Drafting Committee.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE TERRITORY

The Council decided, without objection, to include the summary of individual observations made during the general debate (T/L.439) in the relevant chapter of its report on the Territory.

28. The PRESIDENT then put to the vote the whole of the Council's report on conditions in Togoland under French administration, including documents T/L.409 and Add.1, the conclusions and recommendations in document T/L.431 as just adopted, and document T/L.439.

The report as a whole was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

Examination of petitions (continued)

[Agenda item 4]

SEVENTY-SECOND REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.440): PETITIONS CONCERNING TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

29. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the three draft resolutions annexed to the Standing Committee's report (T/L.440).

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

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

At the request of the representative of Syria the vote on draft resolution III was taken in two parts.

The preamble and paragraph 1 of draft resolution III were adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 was adopted unanimously.

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

The recommendation in paragraph 3 of the introduction to the report was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION (T/L.425, T/L.426, T/L.427)

Sixty-fourth report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.425)

30. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the draft resolutions annexed to the report (T/L.425).

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

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

31. In answer to a question from Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) concerning draft resolution III, Mr. ROBERTI (Acting representative of Italy as Administering Authority for Somaliland) said that the measure under consideration by the Italian Government was the granting of assistance of a permanent nature such as pensions to Somali ex-soldiers who were physically unfit for employment in the War Cripples, Disabled Servicemen and Veterans Company.

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

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

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

At the request of the representative of Syria, the vote on draft resolution VI was taken in two parts.

The preamble and paragraphs 1 and 2 of draft resolution VI were adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 3 was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution VI as a whole was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 3 of the introduction to the report was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Sixty-fifth report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.426)

32. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the draft resolutions annexed to the report (T/L.426).

At the request of the representative of El Salvador, the vote on draft resolution I was taken in two parts.

The preamble and paragraphs 1 and 2 of the resolution were adopted by 7 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Paragraph 3 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

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

33. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation would vote against draft resolution II because it was entirely inadequate; the substance of the petitioner's complaint had been ignored and his reference to acts of violence committed in the Territory had been passed over in silence.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 7 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

At the request of the representative of Syria, the vote on draft resolution IV was taken in two parts.

The preamble and paragraph 1 of draft resolution IV were adopted by 6 votes to one, with 5 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution IV as a whole was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

34. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the operative part of draft resolution V put forward by the Standing Committee on Petitions should be replaced by the following:

"Instructs the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954, to investigate the question of the violation of the right to submit petitions in Oddur and the persecution of members of the Somali Youth League in Oddur for having addressed petitions to the United Nations."

That text better reflected the substance of the Somali Youth League's complaint that its members had been subjected to persecution after they had presented petitions to a visiting representative of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration. It would be appropriate to request the next visiting mission to investigate the matter further on the spot.

35. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) pointed out that the Standing Committee on Petitions had examined the petition very carefully and had established the facts with the assistance of a member of the Secretariat who had accompanied the representative of the Advisory Council for Somaliland during his visit to Oddur. His observations had confirmed those of the Administering Authority; he had seen no sign of interference by the authorities and no violence. The charge upon which the Soviet draft resolution was based was therefore unsubstantiated, and the United Kingdom delegation would be unable to support it.

The Soviet draft resolution was rejected by 6 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

36. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) said that he had voted in favour of the draft resolution because he had no objection to an investigation by the 1954 Visiting Mission, and did not think that the measure reflected on the Administering Authority.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

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

37. Mr. ROBERTI (Acting representative of Italy as Administering Authority for Somaliland) noted that resolutions V and VI were both connected with Oddur, and belonged to a more troubled past. A member of the Advisory Council who had visited the district had

expressed his appreciation for the situation he had found. Generally speaking, he added, the tension between the various political parties had now subsided, as the Trusteeship Council had noted at its twelfth session (A/2427, p. 46).

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

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

The recommendation in paragraph 3 of the report (T/L.426) was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

Sixty-sixth report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.427)

38. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the draft resolutions annexed to the Committee's report (T/L.427).

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

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

At the request of the representative of Syria, the vote on draft resolution III was taken in two parts.

The preamble and paragraphs 1 to 3 of draft resolution III were adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Paragraph 4 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution III as a whole was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

39. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that draft resolutions IV, V and VI should be replaced by the following single resolution:

"The Trusteeship Council,

"Having considered petitions T/PET.11/360, T/PET.11/366 and Add.1, T/PET.11/367, T/PET.11/L.5 and T/PET.11/372 and Add.1, which state that:

"(a) The Municipal Council and the Residency Council in the Bardera region are a 'farce' and that members of these Councils are nominees of the Resident;

"(b) In the Trust Territory there is racial discrimination in all branches of activity, members of political parties are persecuted for their political activities and people addressing petitions to the United Nations are persecuted;

"(c) There are complaints that the inhabitants of the Trust Territory are being arrested without sufficient grounds;

"(d) There are complaints that the numbers of schools and hospitals in the Trust Territory are insufficient;

"(e) The situation of the indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territory is becoming steadily worse; and

"(f) The petitioners ask the United Nations to take the measures necessary to alleviate their hard lot;

"1. Recommends to the Administering Authority that it create in the Trust Territory legislative and executive organs and introduce legislative and other measures to ensure the participation of the indigenous population in the legislative, executive and judicial organs of the Trust Territory and to contribute to the creation of local organs of self-government;

"2. Recommends further to the Administering Authority that it put an end to the anti-democratic policy and racial discrimination against the indigenous population;

"3. Recommends further that the Administering Authority increase budgetary allocations for educational and other cultural needs as well for the public health of the indigenous population of the Trust Territory; and

"4. Instructs the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954, to investigate the problems raised by the petitioners."

40. Mr. ROBERTI (Acting representative of Italy as Administering Authority for Somaliland) recalled that, when a similar draft resolution (T/C.2/L.70/Add.1) had been submitted to the Standing Committee on Petitions at its 148th meeting, he had described the present situation in the Territory, which showed that the draft resolution was entirely uncalled-for in view of the Administering Authority's manifest efforts to transform the country into a modern democratic State. Elections to the municipal councils were to take place on 28 March and later on there would be elections to the Territorial Council. The indigenous population was already participating in the legislative, executive and judicial organs of the Territory; there were more Somalis than Italians in the administrative services and the entire administration of one of the six districts of the Territory was to be entrusted to indigenous officials a few years before 1960. UNESCO's report to the twelfth session of the Council (T/1061 and Add.1) had shown that the educational and cultural needs of the people were being met. There was no racial discrimination in hotels, schools, hospitals or prisons, etc., and the indigenous inhabitants were entirely free, if they wished, to send petitions to the United Nations.

41. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that the Trusteeship Council should avoid taking a one-sided view of the situation and should verify the Administering Authority's statements. He wished to maintain his proposal in order that the facts might be fully investigated by the 1954 Visiting Mission.

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

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

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

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

At the request of the representative of Syria, the vote on draft resolution VIII was taken in two parts.

The preamble and paragraph 1 of draft resolution VIII were adopted by 6 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution VIII as a whole was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 3 of the report (T/L.427) was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

SIXTY-NINTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.435): PETITIONS CONCERNING NAURU

42. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the draft resolution at the end of the report (T/L.435).

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

The meeting was suspended at 4.5 p.m. and was resumed at 4.35 p.m.

SEVENTIETH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.436): PETITIONS CONCERNING TANGANYIKA

43. The PRESIDENT asked the Council to vote on the draft resolutions contained in the report of the Standing Committee (T/L.436).

Draft resolution I was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

44. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had abstained from voting because he did not approve of the restrictive conditions imposed on the petitioner.

45. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) explained that the petitioner was not a national of the Trust Territory. He had resided there and wished to take an African girl who had had a child by him from the Trust Territory and marry her. The girl's parents had specified that the petitioner should pay the normal bride-price and deposit with them a sum sufficient to pay for the girl's repatriation if she was subsequently abandoned. In addition, the Administration had said that the petitioner must show that he had made proper arrangements for the girl's journey and that he had a return ticket for himself. Those seemed very reasonable conditions.

46. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that in draft resolution II the words "and right of ownership" should be added at the end of operative paragraph 3 to make it quite clear that ownership and not only use of the land was meant.

47. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) supported that amendment. The word "tenure" in the English text might include ownership, but the French term "*jouissance*" did not necessarily do so. Roman law distinguished between "*jus*" and "*usus*"; "*jus*" included "*usus*", but not vice versa.

48. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) explained that the Administering Authority was considering two alternative methods of ensuring the African occupiers continued enjoyment of the land in question. The first solution would be to give the tribe perpetual rights to the land under Native law. In that case the individuals concerned would have individual rights of cultivation only so long as they occupied and cultivated the land; if they left, a decision by the tribal authorities would be necessary before they could return and resume occupancy and cultivation. The alternative would be to give the individuals or families concerned rights of occupancy under the Land Ordinance for a period not exceeding ninety-nine years, which might on expiry be extended for a further specified period; in that case the indigenous occupants would have security of occupancy, but their security of tenure would be limited to the original period of time and any subsequent extension of it. The term "security of tenure" was sufficiently flexible to cover both alternatives. Under neither alternative would the present occupiers of the land have

individual rights of ownership. Under the first alternative the right of ownership would be vested in the tribe or collectivity; under the second it would be vested in the Crown, in other words, the Government of Tanganyika.

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

49. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) proposed that in the French text of operative paragraph 3 the words "*aient sécurité de jouissance*" should be replaced by the words "*puissent jouir de leurs droits fonciers en toute sécurité*". The English text should be amended to read "have enjoyment of their land rights in full security".

50. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) accepted the amendment to the French text, but felt that the English text was adequate and more neatly worded as it stood.

51. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) and Mr. PIGNON (France) supported the Syrian amendment to the French text. Mr. Pignon added that he saw no reason to amend the English text, since the Syrian proposal was in complete conformity with the explanation given by the United Kingdom representative and exactly corresponded to the existing English text.

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

52. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) said that he had voted in favour of the Syrian amendment, which apparently improved the French text of operative paragraph 3 without modifying the substance of the English text.

53. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) said that he had abstained from voting on the Syrian amendment because it was merely a distinction without a difference.

Draft resolution II, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

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

54. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation contained in paragraph 3 of the Standing Committee's report (T/L.436).

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

SEVENTY-FIRST REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.437): PETITIONS CONCERNING RUANDA-URUNDI

55. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) said that he would vote against draft resolution I, which referred mainly to offers of scholarships, whereas the petitioner had spoken of the Belgian Administration's refusal to allow UNESCO to organize courses in the Trust Territory. There seemed to be little connexion between the two questions.

56. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) asked for a separate vote on paragraph 3.

The preamble and paragraphs 1 and 2 of draft resolution I were adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Paragraph 3 was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution I, as a whole, was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

57. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the petition dealt with in draft resolution II (T/PET.3/69) contained a number of very serious complaints, which draft resolution II entirely failed to take into account. He therefore proposed that the operative paragraphs should be replaced by the following text:

"1. Draws the attention of the Administering Authority to the facts showing that the indigenous population are without any rights, that racial discrimination is practised and that there are arbitrary actions on the part of the Europeans resulting in the beating of the indigenous population of the Trust Territory;

"2. Recommends that the Administering Authority should take measures to abolish racial discrimination and to forbid arbitrary actions in the Trust Territory;

"3. Invites the Administering Authority to report to the Council at its fourteenth session the results of the legal actions mentioned in the petition."

The USSR proposal was rejected by 6 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 5 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 4 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

58. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation in paragraph 3 of the Standing Committee's report (T/L.437).

The recommendation was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

Reports of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, 1952 (T/L.422)

[Agenda item 5]

59. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) explained that his delegation's draft resolution (T/L.422) was purely formal; it followed the usual pattern. Operative paragraph 6 had been inserted to bring the Council's procedure into conformity with rule 99 of the rules of procedure.

60. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador) submitted an amendment on behalf of his delegation and the delegation of China. The words "including its special report on the Ewe and Togoland unification problem" should be inserted after the words "the Visiting Mission" in operative paragraph 6.

61. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) accepted that amendment, although he had thought that the fact that the draft resolution referred to the reports of the Visiting Mission in the plural covered all the reports.

The amendment was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The New Zealand resolution (T/L.422), as amended, was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.