

teenship Agreement has been terminated, all with the approval of the United Nations;

4. *Considers it necessary* that, pending the establishment of popular governments on the basis of the legislative elections to be held in 1961, broad-based caretaker governments be constituted immediately in both parts of the Trust Territory to attend to current affairs of administration and to act in strict conformity with the obligations of the Administering Authority for the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly;

5. *Declares* that it is clearly the obligation and the responsibility of the Administering Authority to create the necessary conditions and atmosphere for the proper conduct of the national elections and not to permit any local authorities to impede the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* that the referendum on the question of the Mwami, contemplated in resolution 1580 (XV), and the legislative elections in Ruanda-Urundi should be held in the month of August 1961 on the basis of direct universal adult suffrage, under the supervision of the United Nations, and that these be organized by the Administering Authority in full consultation with the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi, the actual dates to be fixed, after mutual consultation, in the light of the prevailing circumstances;

7. *Decides further* that the questions to be put at the referendum on the question of the Mwami in Ruanda should be the following:

"1. Do you wish to retain the institution of the Mwami in Ruanda?

"2. If so, do you wish Kigeli V to continue as the Mwami of Ruanda?"

8. *Requests* the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi, composed of three members elected by the General Assembly on 20 December 1960, hereafter to be designated United Nations Commissioners, to return to Ruanda-Urundi at the earliest possible time to assist and advise the Administering Authority in the full and proper implementation of resolution 1579 (XV) and the present resolution, and to perform the other tasks entrusted to it;

9. *Notes* the information given by the representative of the Administering Authority concerning measures of amnesty already implemented, and recommends that:

(a) Full and unconditional amnesty, as envisaged in resolution 1579 (XV), be immediately granted by the Administering Authority;

(b) The few remaining cases which, in the Administering Authority's view, are guilty of "very grave crimes" be examined by a Special Commission composed of the representatives of three Member States to be elected by the General Assembly, with a view to securing their release from prison or return from abroad in the full implementation of the Assembly's recommendation concerning amnesty not later than two months before the national elections;

10. *Notes* the observations contained in paragraphs 199-203 of the interim report of the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi and calls upon the Administering Authority to observe strictly its international obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement;

11. *Requests* the Administering Authority to ensure that the material conditions essential to the successful

discharge by the United Nations Commissioners of their responsibilities, such as housing, office space, travel facilities, information and the free use of official broadcasting facilities are provided, and that the local authorities co-operate fully with them;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session;

13. *Decides* to maintain this item on the agenda of the present session, without closing the debate thereon, and authorizes the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi, in the event that the performance of its duties is hindered through deliberate obstruction or lack of the requisite co-operation from any quarter, to return to United Nations Headquarters and request the President of the General Assembly to reconvene the Assembly immediately to consider further measures essential to the discharge of the United Nations obligations with respect to the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi;

14. *Calls upon* the Administering Authority to rescind Legislative Order No. 221/296 of 25 October 1960, so as to ensure that there is no unwarranted interference with the exercise of public freedom and that no persons may be removed or detained without recourse to due process of law;

15. *Reiterates* its conviction that the best future for Ruanda-Urundi lies in the accession of that Territory to independence as a single, united and composite State;

16. *Considers* that the full implementation of all the provisions of the present resolution will enable the General Assembly at its sixteenth session to consider the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement at the earliest possible date.

*994th plenary meeting,
21 April 1961.*

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At its 994th plenary meeting on 21 April 1961, the General Assembly appointed the members of the Special Commission established under the terms of paragraph 9 (b) of the above resolution.

The Special Commission is composed as follows: BRAZIL, CANADA and TUNISIA.

1606 (XV). Land tenure and agrarian reform in Ruanda-Urundi

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1960, stated in its report on Ruanda-Urundi that since the November 1959 disturbances the question of the necessary changes in the land tenure system has become even more urgent, and that the present position represents an obstacle to lasting peace in the country and impedes the rational utilization of land, without which agriculture and stock-breeding cannot properly develop,⁴

Recalling that the Trusteeship Council at its twenty-sixth session adopted the following recommendation:

"The Council, noting that basic reforms are needed in the land tenure system of the Trust Territory, expresses the hope that the new representative bodies

⁴ *Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (T/1551), document T/1538, para. 494.*

to be constituted in Ruanda-Urundi will give urgent consideration to these problems",⁵

Recalling that the Trusteeship Council and the Committee on Rural Economic Development have in the past made various studies of the problem of population, land utilization and land tenure system in Ruanda-Urundi,

Bearing in mind that the majority of the petitioners are agreed that this problem is of vital importance to the Territory,

Considering that a satisfactory land tenure system is essential to the peaceful evolution and satisfactory economic development of newly independent territories,

1. *Recommends* that the Administering Authority urgently request the United Nations and the specialized agencies, under the technical assistance programmes, to dispatch an expert mission to study the problem of land tenure and land utilization in Ruanda-Urundi, in co-operation with the local authorities, with a view to determining how far the present system is prejudicial to the Territory's social and economic development, and to recommend corrective measures;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the Technical Assistance Board and the specialized agencies concerned will give favourable consideration to such a request.

*994th plenary meeting,
21 April 1961.*

1607 (XV). Dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1276 (XIII) of 5 December 1958 and resolution 1410 (XIV) of 5 December 1959 whereby the General Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to initiate discussions with the Administering Authorities of Trust Territories with a view to establishing, during 1960, in at least some of the larger Trust Territories, such as Tanganyika, Ruanda-Urundi and New Guinea, United Nations information centres in which the responsible positions would be occupied preferably by indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territories concerned,

Having perused the report of the Secretary-General⁶ prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1410 (XIV), and observing therefrom that the dissemination of information on the United Nations among the peoples of the Trust Territories is still far from satisfactory,

Keeping in view the special status of Trust Territories and their inhabitants and also the General Assembly's own special responsibilities under Chapters XII and XIII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reiterating that it is essential, in the General Assembly's view, that the peoples of Trust Territories should receive adequate information concerning the purposes and operation of the United Nations and of the International Trusteeship System, the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/4404), part II, chapter II, para. 184.*

⁶ *Ibid., Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 46, documents A/4542 and Add.1.*

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories;

2. *Considers* that United Nations information centres constitute one of the most important means of disseminating information about the United Nations in these Territories;

3. *Takes note* of the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that, as a result of discussions between the Secretary-General and the Administering Authority, steps have been taken to establish, in the near future, a United Nations information centre in Tanganyika;

4. *Takes further note* of the recommendation in paragraph 224 of the interim report of the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi³ that a United Nations information centre should be set up with all possible speed in Ruanda-Urundi;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to establish, without any further delay, in Tanganyika, Ruanda-Urundi and New Guinea, United Nations information centres in which the responsible positions would be occupied by indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territories concerned;

6. *Invites* the Administering Authorities to extend their co-operation and assistance to the Secretary-General in implementing the present resolution;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the immediate and mass publication and the widest possible circulation and dissemination, in all the Trust Territories through all media of mass communication, of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples;

8. *Requests* that the information referred to in the present resolution should be disseminated in the principal local languages as well as in the language of the Administering Authority;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to prepare for the Trusteeship Council at its twenty-seventh session and for the General Assembly at its sixteenth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*994th plenary meeting,
21 April 1961.*

1608 (XV). The future of the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1350 (XIII) of 13 March 1959 concerning the future of the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration in which the General Assembly recommended, *inter alia*, that the Administering Authority take steps, in consultation with the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner for the Cameroons under United Kingdom Administration, to organize, under the supervision of the United Nations, separate plebiscites in the northern and southern parts of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration, in order to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants of the Territory concerning their future, and that the plebiscite in the Northern Cameroons be held about the middle of November 1959