

434 (V). Organization and methods of functioning of visiting missions

The General Assembly,

Considering that, under Article 85, paragraph 1, of the Charter, the functions of the United Nations with regard to Trusteeship Agreements for all areas not designated as strategic shall be exercised by the General Assembly,

Considering that, under Article 87 c of the Charter, the General Assembly and, under its authority, the Trusteeship Council, may provide for periodic visits to the respective Trust Territories at times agreed upon with the Administering Authority,

Noting that visiting missions of the Trusteeship Council have now visited each of the Trust Territories for the first time and have submitted valuable reports to the Council,

Noting that these missions were the first of their kind and that the time during which they remained in each of the Trust Territories did not permit them to make a thorough study of some of the problems existing in the Trust Territories,

Considering that, since it has been customary for the Trusteeship Council to study the possibility of improving the organization and membership as well as the methods and functioning of visiting missions, the commencement in 1951 of a second series of visits to the Trust Territories presents an opportunity to review these matters again,

1. *Recommends* accordingly that the Trusteeship Council should undertake another such review in order to ensure that the most effective use will be made in future of this important function of the General Assembly and of the Council, taking into consideration for that purpose the observations and suggestions made during the discussion of this matter at the fifth session of the General Assembly and taking into account the advisability of:

(a) Arranging for visiting missions to remain long enough in each Trust Territory to be able adequately to fulfil their task;

(b) Reducing the number of Trust Territories to be visited by a single visiting mission;

(c) Ensuring the greatest possible flexibility in the itinerary of each visiting mission;

(d) Extending the duration of visits without diminishing their frequency;

(e) Continuing to include in the terms of reference of each visiting mission the examination of specific problems;

(f) Continuing to include in the terms of reference of each visiting mission the preliminary examination on the spot, when called for, of the petitions submitted to it, and of such other petitions as the Trusteeship Council may deem appropriate;

(g) Selecting members of each visiting mission as much as possible from among representatives who sit on the Trusteeship Council;

(h) Directing visiting missions to take advantage of every opportunity to inform the indigenous inhabitants of the workings and operations of the International Trusteeship System;

2. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council to include the results of the review in its next report to the General Assembly.

*316th plenary meeting,
2 December 1950.*

435 (V). Examination of petitions

The General Assembly,

Considering that, according to Article 85, paragraph 1, of the Charter, the functions of the United Nations with regard to Trusteeship Agreements for all areas not designated as strategic shall be exercised by the General Assembly,

Considering that, according to Article 87 b of the Charter, the General Assembly and, under its authority, the Trusteeship Council, in carrying out their functions, may accept petitions and examine them in consultation with the Administering Authority,

Considering that the right of petition, which is one of the fundamental human rights, is one of the most important factors in the operation of the International Trusteeship System, and that the careful study of petitions is one of the fundamental responsibilities of the Trusteeship Council,

Considering that it is essential, in the interest of the inhabitants of Trust Territories, to continue to improve in every possible way the procedure for the examination of petitions,

Recommends that the Trusteeship Council accordingly consider the possibility of:

(a) Constituting the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Petitions as a standing committee to meet, if necessary, between sessions of the Council;

(b) Requesting the Administering Authorities to submit such observations as they may wish to make on petitions which concern them, within two months of their receiving such petitions;

(c) Studying all other measures which may serve to improve the present procedure for the examination of petitions;

(d) Requesting the Administering Authorities to submit each year special information concerning action taken on the recommendations of the Council in respect of petitions examined, except in those cases where the Council does not deem it necessary.

*316th plenary meeting,
2 December 1950.*

436 (V). Information on the implementation of Trusteeship Council and General Assembly resolutions relating to Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Considering that it is necessary that both the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council should have

at their disposal information on the implementation of the recommendations approved by both bodies in matters relating to Chapters XII and XIII of the Charter,

Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To prepare a list, classified by subjects, of such resolutions, including in each case the text of the operative part of the document;

(b) To report to the sixth session of the General Assembly on the measures taken by the Administering Authorities to implement such resolutions, using as a source the reports of the Trusteeship Council;

(c) If there has been no action on the part of an Administering Authority in respect of any particular resolution, to set forth the reasons given concerning that matter.

*316th plenary meeting,
2 December 1950.*

437 (V). Educational advancement in Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Considering that the promotion of educational advancement of the inhabitants of Trust Territories is essential for their progressive development as early as possible towards self-government or independence,

Recognizing that, while notable progress has already been achieved in the educational development of the Trust Territories, considerable efforts are still required in this field,

Considering that the establishment, in so far as is practicable, of comprehensive and long-range plans to achieve such educational development is desirable,

1. *Recommends* that the Trusteeship Council continue to devote particular attention, in consultation with the Administering Authorities and the specialized agencies, to long-range programmes of educational development in the Trust Territories, with a view to enabling the inhabitants of those Territories to take over the responsibilities of complete self-government at the earliest possible date;

2. *Requests* that the Trusteeship Council include in its annual reports to the General Assembly its observations on the various long-range educational programmes undertaken in the Trust Territories, and the progress made in respect thereof.

*316th plenary meeting,
2 December 1950.*

438 (V). Rural economic development of the Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the equitable distribution and the proper utilization of the land together constitute one of the essential conditions in ensuring, maintaining and promoting the economic and social advancement of inhabitants of Trust Territories,

Recognizing that all Trust Territories are among the under-developed areas of the world,

1. *Recommends* the Trusteeship Council:

(a) To study the prevailing policies, laws and practices which in the Trust Territories relate to land, land utilization and the alienation of land, taking into account the present and future needs of the indigenous inhabitants from the standpoint of the basic objectives of the International Trusteeship System, as set forth in Article 76 of the Charter, and the future economic requirements of the said Territories, as well as the social and economic consequences of the transfer of land to non-indigenous inhabitants;

(b) To make such recommendations to the Administering Authorities concerning the prevailing policies, laws and practices referred to above as may be conducive to the economic and social development of the indigenous inhabitants of the said Territories and as the Council may see fit to make in the light of the study undertaken in pursuance of sub-paragraph (a) above;

2. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council to report to the next regular session of the General Assembly on the work done in this connexion.

*316th plenary meeting,
2 December 1950.*

439 (V). Technical assistance for Trust Territories

The General Assembly,

Considering that, in pursuance of the objectives of the Trusteeship System as set forth in the Charter, it is indispensable that Trust Territories be developed in the interests of the indigenous inhabitants,

Noting that the development of the Trust Territories might be improved by additional technical assistance,

Noting that, under the expanded programme of technical assistance for economic development of under-developed countries (resolution 222 (IX) of the Economic and Social Council), the Trust Territories are eligible to receive technical assistance upon the request of the Administering Authorities concerned,

1. *Draws the attention* of the Administering Authorities to the facilities available under the expanded programme of technical assistance, as well as to the regular programmes of technical assistance of the United Nations and the specialized agencies for economic development, social welfare services and training for public administration;

2. *Draws the attention* of the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies and the Secretary-General to the need to extend to the Trust Territories such technical assistance as they may be in a position to render, in order to establish a sound basis for the progressive development of the inhabitants towards self-government or independence;

3. *Recommends* that the Administering Authorities, on behalf of the Trust Territories, make full use of these sources of technical assistance and make appropriate applications to the agencies involved;