

6. *Invites* the Government of the Union of South Africa to co-operate with the Committee and, in particular, to submit to the Committee reports and such petitions as may be received on its administration of the Territory of South West Africa, and to assist the Committee in the examination of such reports and petitions, or of such information and documentation as may be available to that Committee;

7. *Requests* the Committee on South West Africa, in the preparation of its next report, to take into account the discussions in the Fourth Committee at the tenth session of the General Assembly;

8. *Further requests* the Committee on South West Africa, in the preparation of its next and all future reports, to include its recommendations on each aspect of conditions in the Territory for such particular action as it considers the Government of the Union of South Africa should take to ensure the fulfilment of its obligations and responsibilities under the Mandate.

*550th plenary meeting,
3 December 1955.*

942 (X). Question of the admissibility of oral hearings by the Committee on South West Africa: request for an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice

The General Assembly,

Having been requested by the Committee on South West Africa to decide whether or not the oral hearing of petitioners on matters relating to the Territory of South West Africa is admissible before that Committee,²³

Having instructed the Committee, in General Assembly resolution 749 A (VIII) of 28 November 1953, to examine petitions as far as possible in accordance with the procedure of the former Mandates System,

Requests the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion on the following question:

"Is it consistent with the advisory opinion²⁴ of the International Court of Justice of 11 July 1950 for the Committee on South West Africa, established by General Assembly resolution 749 A (VIII) of 28 November 1953, to grant oral hearings to petitioners on matters relating to the Territory of South West Africa?"

*550th plenary meeting,
3 December 1955.*

943 (X). Hearing of the Reverend Michael Scott

The General Assembly,

Having granted an oral hearing to the Reverend Michael Scott on behalf of the Native inhabitants of the Territory of South West Africa under the administration of the Union of South Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the statements of the Reverend Michael Scott on behalf of the Native inhabitants of South West Africa under the administration of the Union of South Africa;

²³ *Ibid.*, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 30, document A/2913/Add.2.

²⁴ *International Status of South-West Africa, Advisory Opinion: I.C.J. Reports 1950, p. 128.*

2. *Decides* to transmit to the Committee on South West Africa the statements of the Reverend Michael Scott for its study and consideration as appropriate.

*550th plenary meeting,
3 December 1955.*

944 (X). The Togoland unification problem and the future of the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration

The General Assembly,

I. *The future of Togoland under British administration:*

Recalling its resolution 860 (IX) of 14 December 1954, by which the Trusteeship Council was requested to consider the arrangements to be made to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants of the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration as to their future, without prejudice to the eventual solution which they might choose, whether it be independence, unification of an independent Togoland under British administration with an independent Togoland under French administration, unification with an independent Gold Coast, or some other self-governing or independent status,

Having received the report²⁵ of the Trusteeship Council transmitting the special report²⁶ of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Togoland under British Administration and Togoland under French Administration, 1955, the observations²⁷ of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the official records of the relevant meetings of the Council,

Noting the opinion of the Trusteeship Council that the views expressed in the special report of the Visiting Mission provide in general a useful basis for determining the arrangements to be made in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 860 (IX),

Taking note also of the views expressed orally by the various local political groups before the Fourth Committee during its hearings,

Noting further the statement of the Government of the United Kingdom that the Gold Coast will attain independence in the near future and that, in consequence, it will be impossible thereafter for Togoland under British administration to be administered as at present,

1. *Accepts* the recommendation of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Togoland under British Administration and Togoland under French Administration, 1955, contained in its special report that the wishes of the inhabitants of Togoland under British administration as to their future should be ascertained by plebiscite;

2. *Recommends* that the Administering Authority of Togoland under British administration, in pursuance of Article 76 b of the Charter of the United Nations, take steps, in consultation with a United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner, to organize and conduct without delay, under the supervision of the United Nations, a plebiscite in respect of the Trust Territory in order to

²⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 35, document A/3046.*

²⁶ *Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Fifth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (T/1218), document T/1206 and Add.1.*

²⁷ *Ibid.*, document T/1214.

ascertain the wishes of the majority of its inhabitants in regard to

(a) The union of their Territory with an independent Gold Coast; or

(b) Separation of Togoland under British administration from the Gold Coast and its continuance under trusteeship pending the ultimate determination of its political future;

3. *Decides* to appoint a United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner who shall exercise on behalf of the General Assembly the powers and functions of supervision defined by the Visiting Mission in its special report, and who shall be assisted by observers and staff to be appointed by the Secretary-General in consultation with him;

4. *Recommends further* that the plebiscite be organized and conducted on the basis of the arrangements proposed in chapter IV of the special report of the Visiting Mission, subject to such modifications of detail as are agreed upon between the Administering Authority and the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner, and such additional measures as may be proposed by the Commissioner in order to secure a free and neutral atmosphere for the plebiscite;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner to submit a report on the organization, conduct and results of the plebiscite to the Trusteeship Council for its consideration, and for transmission to the General Assembly at its eleventh session in order that the latter may, in consultation with the Administering Authority, assess the results and determine the further action to be taken on the attainment of independence by the Gold Coast in the light of all the circumstances and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Trusteeship Agreement;

6. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council, in virtue of the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement and of the Charter, to continue to exercise its functions at either its regular or special sessions as may be necessary, and to take into consideration any matter that may arise, or be referred to it, in respect of the Trust Territory;

II. *The future of Togoland under French administration:*

Noting with regard to Togoland under French administration, the statements made by the Administering Authority, as recorded by the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Togoland under British Administration and Togoland under French Administration, 1955, in its special report, to the effect that the Authority itself, taking into account the views of the Territorial Assembly, contemplates holding in due course consultations with the inhabitants of the Territory to ascertain their wishes in respect of the future of the Territory,

Noting also the statements by the representative of France in both the Fourth Committee and the Trusteeship Council to the effect that his Government supports in principle the proposals made by the Visiting Mission,

Noting also the view expressed by the Visiting Mission that, following the political reforms at present contemplated by the Administering Authority, steps will

²⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 32, document A/AC.35/L.206.*

be taken to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants of the Territory as to their future,

1. *Endorses* the conclusion of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Togoland under British Administration and Togoland under French Administration, 1955, in respect of Togoland under French administration, that the implementation of the contemplated political reforms will play a helpful role in enabling the wishes of the inhabitants of the Territory as to their future to be ascertained at an early date by direct and democratic methods;

2. *Recommends* that this consultation of the population be conducted, as in the case of Togoland under British administration, under the supervision of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Trusteeship Council, at its forthcoming regular session, to undertake a special study of this matter, in consultation with the Administering Authority, and to report thereon, if possible, to the General Assembly at its eleventh session.

*556th plenary meeting,
15 December 1955.*

945 (X). *Communication from the Government of the Netherlands concerning the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam*

The General Assembly,

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

Recalling that, by resolution 747 (VIII) of 27 November 1953, the General Assembly invited the Government of the Netherlands to communicate to the Secretary-General the result of the negotiations between the representatives of the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam, and invited the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories to report to the General Assembly on the information received,

Having received the communication²⁸ dated 30 March 1955, by which the Government of the Netherlands transmitted to the Secretary-General the constitutional provisions embodied in the Charter for the Kingdom of the Netherlands promulgated on 29 December 1954, together with an explanatory memorandum thereon,

Having studied the report²⁹ prepared by the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, during its session of 1955, on the question of the cessation of the transmission of information with respect to the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam,

Bearing in mind the competence of the General Assembly to decide whether or not a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained the full measure of self-govern-

²⁹ *Ibid., Tenth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/2908) and Supplement No. 16A (A/2908/Add.1).*