

trusteeship agreement; if they agree, it is expected that early in 1962 an independent Western Samoa will conclude a Treaty of Friendship with New Zealand. Each step prior to independence will, of course, be considered at appropriate sessions of the Council and of the General Assembly.

The Council also considered offers by member states of study and training facilities for the inhabitants of trust territories, the training and preparation of indigenous civil cadres in the territories, the dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in trust territories, the possible effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain trust territories, the revision of the Council's questionnaire relating to trust territories, the provision of economic assistance to trust territories as they become independent, and matters relating to the future status of several of the trust territories.

The fixing of independence dates in 1960 for three of the ten trust territories (Cameroons under French administration on January 1, Togoland on April 27 and Somaliland on July 1), the knowledge that two others (Cameroons under United Kingdom administration and Western Samoa) would become independent soon after, and rapid political development in the two remaining African trust territories (Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi) made the year 1959 one of considerable achievement in the history of the Trusteeship Council. None of these developments was unexpected, and each came about in an atmosphere of co-operation and goodwill between the administering authority and the inhabitants of the trust territory. The year saw major steps taken toward the attainment of the objectives of the International Trusteeship System.

### **Report of the Trusteeship Council**

The Report of the Trusteeship Council to the fourteenth session of the General Assembly, covering the work of the Council's 23rd and 24th sessions, was considered by the Fourth (Trusteeship) Committee of the General Assembly, which unanimously passed a resolution taking note of it.

The Committee adopted, Canada supporting, two resolutions on educational conditions in trust territories. It also adopted a resolution favouring the establishment of United Nations Information Centres in Trust Territories. Canada abstained on this resolution maintaining that earlier requests from member states for the establishment of such Centres should be met first. Another resolution in the educational field, stressing the importance of training civil servants in the trust territories, was also adopted with Canada voting in favour.

Canada co-sponsored a resolution fixing the date for the independence of Somaliland under Italian administration. This resolution and one fixing such a date for Togoland under French administration were adopted unanimously. Two resolutions dealing with economic assistance to territories emerging from trust status also passed with no negative votes or abstentions. A draft resolution was presented calling for the creation of a special committee to study opportunities for economic assistance to former trust territories. Following a Canadian initiative this resolution as eventually adopted made no reference to a committee but gave this responsibility to the Economic and Social Council.

Canada opposed, as it has always done in the past, a resolution requesting administering authorities to submit target dates for the independence of the remaining trust territories. Canadian practice has been to oppose resolutions which seemed likely to prove impractical to apply or to raise false hopes among the indigenous populations of the territories. A strongly critical