

in other parts of Africa. It had, however, several unique features. It was the only agreement which made provision for its own termination, the territory being promised independence after ten years. It was also the only one to which a declaration of constitutional principles was attached, vesting sovereignty in the people and providing for the creation of a territorial council to be consulted by the administering authority in all matters other than defence and foreign affairs. Since in this single instance the administering authority was not a member of the United Nations, there was set up, with headquarters in Mogdishu, an Advisory Council consisting of representatives of Colombia, Egypt and the Philippines, whose members were authorized to participate without vote in debates in the Trusteeship Council on the administration of Italian Somaliland.

Ethiopia, which opposed the return of Italians to East Africa in an administrative capacity, reserved its position fully in relation to this trusteeship agreement. When the issue came up for consideration in the Fourth (Trusteeship) Committee of the Assembly in November 1950, Ethiopia argued that the United Nations did not possess the authority to proceed further with the matter. It maintained that no true "agreement" had been submitted, inasmuch as Article 79 of the Charter made it clear that trusteeship "agreements" implied prior acceptance by the states directly concerned, and in this case Ethiopia, as a state directly concerned, had not agreed. Ethiopia's argument was rejected. Canada, like the majority of committee members, held that since the Trusteeship Council had been asked by the Assembly in November 1949 to negotiate a trusteeship agreement with Italy the Assembly was bound to consider the instrument so prepared. Ethiopia was subsequently dissuaded from pressing to the vote an alternative proposal under which the International Court of Justice would be asked to give a series of advisory opinions on the interpretation of Article 79 of the Charter. On December 2 the Assembly formally approved the trusteeship agreement for Italian Somaliland by a majority of 44 (including Canada) to 6 (Ethiopia and the Soviet bloc). There were no abstentions. A budgetary appropriation of \$175,000 was required to cover the expenses of the Advisory Council for Italian Somaliland in 1951.

At its Fifth Session the General Assembly also had before it the report of the United Nations commission which had gone to Eritrea in February 1950 to examine local conditions and to offer recommendations on the best means of promoting the welfare of the inhabitants. Members of the commission disagreed on the disposition which should be made of the territory. The Guatemalan and Pakistani members recommended that Eritrea should be established as a separate, independent state, after a maximum period of ten years under direct United Nations trusteeship. The Norwegian member suggested union of all or part of the territory with Ethiopia, the Western Province being permitted, however, to join the Sudan if it preferred. The Burmese and South African members recommended the federation of the whole of Eritrea with Ethiopia.

Italy was known to prefer the creation of a separate, independent Eritrean state, while Ethiopia advocated the full incorporation of Eritrea in its own empire. In the Interim Committee of the General