

perform a liaison function between the United Nations, the administering authorities and the people of the trust territories. The Canadian Delegation voted against this proposal as it felt that the establishment of additional machinery in the trusteeship field was undesirable.

### **The Ewe and Togoland Unification Problem**

This problem concerns the Ewes, who are a native people living in contiguous areas within British Togoland, French Togoland and the Gold Coast. Some of these have expressed a desire for the unification of the two trust territories of Togoland to enable the Ewe people to be united under one administration. As a result of a resolution adopted at the fifth session of the General Assembly in 1950, France and the United Kingdom submitted to the Trusteeship Council in 1951 a plan for the creation of a Joint Council with broad advisory powers consisting of representatives of the Ewes of both Togolands. At the sixth session of the Assembly a resolution was adopted approving the proposed Joint Council but calling for further consultation before its establishment and a special report by the Trusteeship Council to the seventh session of the Assembly. After receiving this report the Assembly passed a resolution at the seventh session asking the Trusteeship Council to submit to the eighth session a special report on the steps taken by the administering authorities concerning the unification problem. After a full debate in the Trusteeship Committee at the eighth session, during which Representatives from Togoland were heard, the Assembly passed three resolutions concerning Togoland unification. The Canadian Delegation voted in favour of the first two resolutions recommending to the administering authorities the establishment of the Joint Council and inviting them to establish effective facilities for electoral registration based on personal identification, but it abstained in the vote on the third, which requested the Trusteeship Council to re-examine the problem at its thirteenth session and to submit a special report to the ninth session of the Assembly, because the wording of the resolution appeared to pre-judge the issue in favour of unification and against integration of British Togoland into the Gold Coast. Speaking in the Fourth Committee, the Canadian Representative pointed out that Canada has always been in favour of the development of elections with a widespread mandate in Togoland, the establishment of a Joint Council for Togoland affairs and the settlement of frontier difficulties between the two Togolands. He underlined the distinction between the question of unifying the Ewes and of unifying the two Togolands and stated the belief of his Delegation that unification of the Ewes would be effected at least as much by the integration of British Togoland into the Gold Coast, as it would through the unification of the two Togolands. The Trusteeship Council held a debate on Togoland unification at its thirteenth session but voted to postpone a decision until the fourteenth session.

### **Oral Hearings of Native Inhabitants**

Under the Charter the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council are both empowered to accept written or oral petitions from the indigenous inhabitants of trust territories and to examine the