

Assembly in plenary session by a vote of 53 in favour (including Canada), 16 against, with 7 abstentions; this resolution noted the favourable vote of the Togolese people in the plebiscite of October 28, 1956, and invited a commission made up of six United Nations members to make an on-the-spot study of Togoland's status and submit its findings to the twelfth session of the General Assembly in 1958. Canada agreed to provide a member of this six-member United Nations commission which will examine the practical operation of the Statute of Togoland and of the institutions established thereunder, and report to the Trusteeship Council. The latter will then report to the General Assembly on these matters at its twelfth session in the autumn of 1957.

The Fourth Committee, when considering the future of the two trust territories of Togoland, made a searching examination of British and French policies in both of these lands. Eight African petitioners from British and French Togoland were heard by the Committee; these hearings served a useful purpose since the petitioners presented and defended their points of view ably and effectively. The administering authority received the commendation of most speakers in the Fourth Committee's debate for the development which had taken place in British Togoland. It was noted that this was the first case in history of the accession of a United Nations trust territory to maturity and independence. By an interesting coincidence this development had happened precisely ten years after the United Kingdom had signed the Trusteeship Agreement with the United Nations concerning British Togoland. The efforts of the French Government to promote political progress in French Togoland were also considered with satisfaction by a majority of the Fourth Committee. The local population of that territory was congratulated on its significant advances in various fields; congratulations and best wishes were also extended to the future state of Ghana.

Trust Territory of Somaliland

The Representative of Italy made a statement to the eighteenth session of the Trusteeship Council concerning the political, economic and social conditions in Italian Somaliland. The discussion, in which Somali delegates took part, dealt with the economic difficulties which Somaliland will face when it becomes independent in 1960, and with the question of the frontier between Somaliland and Ethiopia. The Council congratulated Italy on having set up a legislative assembly in Somaliland almost four years before the Somali people were to become entirely responsible for the administration of their country. A resolution¹ inviting Italy and Ethiopia to continue their negotiations in regard to the demarcation of the frontier between Ethiopia and Somaliland under Italian administration was adopted by the Fourth Committee and later by the Assembly in plenary session by a vote of 71 in favour, 0 against, with 3 abstentions. In approving this resolution the General Assembly placed on record its opinion that if present negotiations yielded no results before the twelfth session of the Assembly met in 1957, the Italian and Ethiopian Governments should accept the procedure² recommended by the General Assembly in 1950 which called for mediation under the auspices of the United Nations.

¹General Assembly resolution 1068(XI) of February 26, 1957.

²General Assembly resolution 391(V) of December 15, 1950.