

required by security and constitutional considerations statistical and other information relating to the economic, social and educational conditions in the dependent territories for which they are responsible.

In 1949 the General Assembly established on an *ad hoc* basis a Committee on Information from non-self-governing territories, to examine the information submitted in the above-mentioned reports. This Committee is composed of ten members administering non-self-governing territories (except Belgium, which has declined to participate) and seven non-administering members elected for three-year terms. The life of this Committee has been renewed successively for three-year periods and at the thirteenth session its term was renewed until December 31, 1961.

The reports of the Trusteeship Council and of the Committee on Information are considered in detail by the Fourth Committee during the regular sessions of the General Assembly (Agenda items 13 and 36). The Committee, as the need arises, also gives separate and particular attention to special items in respect of dependent territories. At its thirteenth session, for example, the Committee considered the future international status of South-West Africa (agenda item 39), the future of French Togoland (agenda item 40) and the question of the frontier between Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland (agenda item 41) as separate items on its agenda. These and other questions are treated in more detail in the following sections of this Chapter.

### Trust Territories

During the period under review the Trusteeship Council held four sessions: its regular 21st and 22nd sessions (30 January to 26 March 1958 and 9 June to 1 August 1958); and two special sessions in October 1958, the eighth to consider the future of French Togoland and the ninth to give special instructions to the periodic Visiting Mission to the French Cameroons. The Council's standing committees also met to consider petitions, to report on rural economic development and to consider the question of administrative unions, with respect to trust territories.

At its two regular sessions the Council received and considered annual reports for 1956 and 1957 from administering members on the administration of the trust territories for which they were responsible. It also considered the reports of its periodic Visiting Mission to the three trust territories in East Africa. The Council arranged to send a Visiting Mission (comprising members from India, Haiti, New Zealand and United States) to the trust territories of the Cameroons under French and under United Kingdom administration. This Mission was especially charged to report to the Council on the best method of consulting the peoples of the territories to ascertain their desires regarding their future status when they become independent in 1960. The Council arranged to send a periodic Mission (comprising members from Belgium, Burma, China and Italy) to visit the Pacific Islands—Nauru, New Guinea under Australian administration and the Pacific Islands under United States administration. A special Mission (consisting of members from France, India, United Kingdom, United States) was also sent to Western Samoa to study and report on the final steps which it would be necessary to take before that territory attained its autonomy.

The Council also considered offers by member states of fellowships and scholarships for the inhabitants of trust territories, economic aid for Somaliland under Italian administration, the possible effects of the European Common Market on the development of certain trust territories, and the revision of the Council's questionnaire relating to trust territories.