

Council was in turn requested to study the question, taking into account the report of the Commission, and to transmit the results of its study to the Assembly at its twelfth session. The Commission was composed of the following members: Canada, Denmark, Guatemala, Liberia, Philippines and Yugoslavia. Mr. Delisle of the Department of External Affairs represented Canada.

During its stay in French Togoland the Commission travelled extensively in the territory and interviewed and consulted representatives of the administering authority, France, members of the Togolese Government, of the opposition parties and many individual Togolese. In its report, which it adopted unanimously, the Commission concluded that as a result of the new Statute the Togolese possess a large measure of internal autonomy and that a very significant and indeed an irreversible step had been taken towards the attainment of the final goals of the Trusteeship System, i.e. independence or self-government. Before the Trusteeship Agreement was abrogated, the Commission believed that the Togolese people should be consulted by an appropriate means concerning their desires for the future status of the territory and that this consultation should be undertaken in full agreement with the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The Trusteeship Council held a special session in September 1957 to consider the Commission's report. In its Resolution S.7 it transmitted the report to the General Assembly "in order to set in motion an appropriate procedure for the early attainment of the final objectives of the Trusteeship Agreement, which it felt should be based on the findings contained in the report and the statements made to the Council by the Representatives of the Togolese Government and France".

The Fourth Committee of the General Assembly held three weeks of debate on the subject. It heard Representatives of the Governments of France and Togoland and representatives of the three opposition parties in Togoland. The Representative of France, Mr. Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet and the Minister for Overseas France, Mr. Gerard Jacquet, spoke at length on the degree of internal autonomy which the territory had achieved and guaranteed the transfer of certain residual powers which would leave only external affairs, defence, and currency and foreign exchange under French control. Mr. Kosciusko-Morizet, speaking before the Trusteeship Council, had already stated that "should the Trusteeship System be terminated and should the duly elected Assembly of Togoland express the wish to leave the French Union, the Government and Parliament of France would undoubtedly have no choice but to accept and to meet by due legal procedures the expressed wishes of the Togoland Assembly".

The President of the Togolese Legislative Assembly, Mr. Ajavon, and the Minister of Finance, Mr. Apedo-Amah gave evidence of the degree of autonomy of the Government which they led, but consented in a spirit of conciliation, to hold elections on a basis of universal adult suffrage to a new Legislative Assembly in 1958, although under the Statute this was not obligatory before 1960. They also agreed to the United Nations Assembly electing a Commissioner to "supervise" the elections which in their view might constitute the "appropriate means of consultation" called for by the Special Commission. The Representatives of the Togolese Government stressed the desirability of maintaining close links with the government of the country which had led them so far along the path to nationhood and to attainment of the goals of the trusteeship system. In this stage of their