ARTICLE 88

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 88

The Trusteeship Council shall formulate a questionnaire on the political, economic, social, and educational advancement of the inhabitants of each trust territory, and the administering authority for each trust territory within the competence of the General Assembly shall make an annual report to the General Assembly upon the basis of such questionnaire.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. Developments took place in the period under review with regard to formulating special questionnaires for New Guinea, Nauru and Tanganyika, and concerning the time limit for the submission of annual reports. The establishment of the Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire and its work during the previous sessions of the Council were dealt with in the Repertory, under Article 88, section II B, and in Supplement No. 1, in the General Survey. The question of the time limit for the submission of annual reports was dealt with in section E of the Repertory study of this Article.

I. GENERAL SURVEY

2. Previously, by resolution 751 (VIII), the General Assembly had instructed a special sub-committee to examine the Questionnaire formulated by the Trusteeship Council and to study such changes as might be necessary to adapt it to the special conditions of each Territory. The Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire had presented its third progress report, containing recommendations concerning the Questionnaire for New Guinea, to the Trusteeship Council during its eighteenth session. The Council had decided to postpone further consideration of the report until the nineteenth session in order to enable the Administering Authority to present its comments on the recommendations.

3. At the twentieth session of the Trusteeship Council, the Administering Authority submitted a working paper concerning the third progress report of the Sub-Committee

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1/ T C (XI), Spec. Suppl. (T/1010).
2/ T C (XVIII), Annexes, a.i. 11, T/1267.
3/ T C (XVIII), 730th mtg., paras. 83-89.
4/ T C (XX), Annexes, a.i. 12, T/L.785.
on the Questionnaire, 5/ setting forth a number of amendments to the proposals made by
the Sub-Committee. During this session, at the 830th meeting, the Trusteeship Council
decided 6/ to refer the third progress report back to the Sub-Committee, together with
a working paper submitted by Australia.

4. The Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire examined the working paper 7/ submitted by
Australia in conjunction with its third progress report. The Sub-Committee accepted
a number of suggestions made by Australia, modified its proposals and submitted its
fifth progress report, 8/ containing its final conclusions concerning the Special
Questionnaire for New Guinea, to the Trusteeship Council.

5. At its 929th and 930th meetings, the Trusteeship Council 9/ considered the fifth
progress report of the Sub-Committee. The Council voted on each separate question
and, with certain amendments, adopted the special Questionnaire for New Guinea 10/
proposed by the Sub-Committee.

6. The Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire also submitted its fourth progress report 11/
to the Trusteeship Council. In this it stated that it had requested the Secretary-
General to prepare a draft of a special Questionnaire for Nauru and that this draft
had been submitted to the Sub-Committee. The heavy schedule of conferences in the
second half of 1956 and 1957 had prevented the Sub-Committee from giving the draft
of the special Questionnaire for Nauru detailed consideration. The Council, at its
830th meeting, took note of the fourth progress report of the Sub-Committee on the
Questionnaire, 12/

7. The Sub-Committee submitted its sixth progress report 13/ to the Trusteeship
Council at its twenty-third session; this contained a special Questionnaire for the
Trust Territory of Nauru. At its 965th meeting, the Council decided 14/ to transmit
this report of the Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire to the Government of Australia,
as the Administering Authority concerned, for observations and to postpone
consideration of the report until the Council's twenty-fourth session.

8. At the twenty-fourth session of the Trusteeship Council, the Administering
Authority submitted observations and suggestions 15/ concerning the sixth progress
report of the Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire. At its 1011th meeting, the
Trusteeship Council decided 16/ to refer the Sub-Committee's sixth progress report
back to the Sub-Committee, together with the observations submitted thereon by
Australia.

9. In September 1959, the Sub-Committee examined the observations by Australia in
conjunction with its sixth progress report; accepted a number of suggestions made by
Australia; modified its proposals; and submitted its eighth progress report, 17/

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5/ T C (XVIII), Annexes, a.i. 11, T/1267.
6/ T C (XX), 830th mtg., para. 78.
7/ T C (XX), Annexes, a.i. 12, T/1-785.
8/ T C (XXII), Annexes, a.i. 11, T/1389.
9/ T C (XXII), 929th mtg., paras. 21 et seqq.; 930th mtg., paras. 1-32.
10/ T C (XXII), Spec. Suppl. (T/1010/Add.1).
11/ T/1327 (mimeographed), paras. 2 and 13.
12/ T C (XX), 830th mtg., para. 77.
13/ T C (XXIII), Annexes, a.i. 19, T/1430.
14/ T C (XXIII), 965th mtg., para. 69.
15/ T C (XXIV), Annexes, a.i. 10, T/1456.
16/ T C (XXIV), 1011th mtg., paras. 1-3.
17/ T/1488 (mimeographed).

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containing its final conclusions concerning the special Questionnaire for Nauru, to the
Trusteeship Council.

10. The Sub-Committee also submitted its seventh progress report, 18/ containing a
special Questionnaire for the Trust Territory of Tanganyika, to the Trusteeship Council
at its twenty-fourth session. At its 1011th meeting, the Council decided 19/ to
transmit this report to the Administering Authority for its observations.

11. During the 806th, 807th, 889th, 890th and 902nd meetings of the Trusteeship
Council, it was noted 20/ that annual reports were not received by the Secretary-
General within the arranged time limit or in the number set forth in rule 72 of the
rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council. At the 889th meeting of the Trusteeship
Council, the Secretary-General was asked to prepare a working paper on the receipt of
annual reports from Administering Authorities. The Secretary-General submitted such a
working paper, 21/ showing the dates on which the annual reports for 1955 and subsequent
years were received from the Administering Authorities by the Secretary-General. Some
representatives expressed the view 22/ that the Administering Authorities should be
requested to accelerate the submission of annual reports and to present them in the
appropriate number of copies, so that delegations and specialized agencies would have
sufficient time to study them properly and to prepare comments for the Trusteeship
Council.

12. In connexion with the decision of the Trusteeship Council to start its twenty-
sixth session early in May, the question was raised 23/ whether the Administering
Authorities would submit their annual reports in time for the twenty-sixth session. The
President recalled rule 72, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the
Trusteeship Council, and several Administering Authorities stated that they would do
their utmost to have the reports ready when the decision should have been taken by the
Council to begin its twenty-sixth session in May 1960.

13. At its twenty-fourth session, 24/ the Trusteeship Council, by resolution 1954
(XXIV) of 31 July 1959, took note of a statement of the United Kingdom delegation that
it intended, during the ensuing year and subsequent years, to submit its annual
reports on Tanganyika in time for the Council to examine them at the summer session of
the year following the year to which they related. The Council decided to discuss
conditions in the Trust Territory of Tanganyika, and particularly the annual report of
the Administering Authority for the years 1958 and 1959, at its twenty-sixth session,
suspending rule 72, paragraph 2, of its rules of procedure for this purpose.

18/ T C (XXIV), Annexes, a.i. 10, p. 2, T/1459.
19/ T C (XXIV), 1011th mtg., para. 8.
20/ T C (XX), 806th mtg., para. 7; 807th mtg., paras. 43 and 44; 889th mtg., para. 20;
890th mtg., para. 15; 902nd mtg., para. 46.
21/ T/L.852 (mimeographed).
22/ T C (XXII), 890th mtg., para. 15; 902nd mtg., para. 46; T C (XX), 806th mtg.,
para. 7; 807th mtg., para. 43.
23/ T C (XXIV), 1039th mtg., paras. 6, 7 and 10-13; 1041st mtg., paras. 102-104.
24/ Ibid., 1034th mtg., para. 30.