

## ANNEX L

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT REGARDING THE SPECIAL FUNCTIONS OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS WITH REGARD TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OF TRUST AND OTHER NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

1. This paper is concerned with the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly's Special Committee on Information Transmitted under Article 73(e) of the Charter of the United Nations, together with the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Secretariat of the United Nations and its Divisions, which serve these organs. The Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee of the General Assembly on Information Transmitted under Article 73(e) of the Charter are distinct from the Economic and Social Council, and the direct responsibility for servicing these organs is incumbent upon the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and not upon the Department of Economic Affairs or the Department of Social Affairs. The authority of these organs derives from Chapter XI ("Declaration Regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories"), Chapter XII ("International Trusteeship System") and Chapter XIII ("Trusteeship Council") of the Charter of the United Nations. The Trusteeship Council includes among its functions responsibility for promoting the economic advancement of the inhabitants of the Trust Territories. The Special Committee is concerned with the information transmitted to the Secretary-General by Members of the United Nations under Article 73(e) of Chapter XI of the Charter; Article 73(e) of the Charter applies to Non-Self-Governing Territories excluding Trust Territories.

2. The Non-Self-Governing Territories are also within the scope of the general concern in economic and social matters of the Economic and Social Council and its commissions, including the Economic and Employment Commission and its Sub-Commission on Economic Development. The Economic and Social Council regards such territories as being among the under-developed areas. The Secretariat of the Department of Economic Affairs

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and the Secretariat of the Department of Social Affairs include such territories, when appropriate, in their general studies.

3. Ten territories formerly administered under mandate from the League of Nations have been placed under the International Trusteeship System provided for in Chapters XII and XIII of the Charter. Nine of these territories are within the competence of the General Assembly which exercises the functions of the United Nations with regard to them. The Trusteeship Council, operating under the authority of the General Assembly, assists the General Assembly in carrying out these functions. The Trusteeship Council, when appropriate, avails itself of the assistance of the Economic and Social Council and of the specialized agencies in regard to matters with which they are respectively concerned (Article 91 of the Charter). The tenth Trust Territory is a Strategic Area, and, as such, is within the competence of the Security Council. As provided in paragraph 3 of Article 83, "The Security Council shall, subject to the provisions of the trusteeship agreements and without prejudice to security considerations, avail itself of the assistance of the Trusteeship Council to perform those functions of the United Nations under the trusteeship system relating to political, economic, social and educational matters in the strategic areas."

4. In respect of Trust Territories within the competence of the General Assembly, the Trusteeship Council is primarily concerned with exercising the functions of the United Nations in respect of their development - including economic development. There is thus an area of common concern to the Economic and Social Council and the Trusteeship Council. Recognizing this fact, the two Councils appointed a Joint Committee to consider arrangements for co-operation in dealing with such matters. Among the various recommendations in the Report of the Joint Committee (document E&T/C.1/2/Rev.1) is the following:

"It is recognized that the Economic and Social Council and its Commissions are empowered to make recommendations or studies of general application on matters within their special provinces. It is also recognized that such recommendations or studies may be made in respect of particular groups of territories such as those within a given geographical region or those presenting common economic or social problems. Trust Territories as such should not, however, be singled out for such special recommendations, except with the concurrence of the Trusteeship Council."

5. On 16 August 1947 the Economic and Social Council decided in its

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Resolution 87 (V) concerning procedural arrangements for co-operation with the Trusteeship Council as follows:

"THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the Joint Committee of the Economic and Social Council and the Trusteeship Council on Arrangements for Co-operation in Matters of Common Concern (documents E&T/C.1/2 and E&T/C.1/2/Corr.1),

DECIDES to refer the report for consideration of the Trusteeship Council together with the views expressed in the Council in the debate of 16 August 1947."

The Trusteeship Council in the course of its second session (November - December 1947) approved the report of the Joint Committee.

6. The provisions of the Charter of the United Nations relating to non-self-governing territories generally, as distinct from trust territories in particular, are in Chapter XI. Under Article 73(e) of this Chapter, Members responsible for Non-Self-Governing Territories excluding Trust Territories, accept the obligation to promote to the utmost the well-being of the inhabitants of these territories and agree to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information on economic, social and educational conditions in the territories. The General Assembly at its second session (September to November 1947) established its Special Committee on Information Transmitted under Article 73(e) of the Charter. This Committee is empowered to examine this information and also to make "such substantive recommendations as it may deem desirable relating to functional fields generally" (including inferentially the economic development of Non-Self-Governing Territories) "but not with respect to individual territories". The Special Committee, which is to hold its first session on 2 September 1948, is also authorized by the General Assembly "to establish liaison with the Economic and Social Council".

7. In its Resolution 142 (II), adopted on 1 November 1947, the General Assembly recommended a standard form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73(e) of the Charter. This standard form contains a section on economic conditions, including development programmes, in the respective territories.