

T/1/Rev.7

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

*(as amended up to and during its
sixty-first session)*



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RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1

The Trusteeship Council shall meet as and where occasion may require, by decision of the Trusteeship Council, or by decision of its President, or at the request of a majority of its members, or at the request of the General Assembly, or at the request of the Security Council acting in pursuance of the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

Rule 2

A request for a session of the Trusteeship Council may be made by the Economic and Social Council or by any member of the Trusteeship Council, and shall be addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who without delay shall communicate the request to the other members of the Trusteeship Council. On notification by the Secretary-General that the majority of the members have concurred, the President of the Trusteeship Council shall request the Secretary-General to call a session.

Rule 3

The President of the Trusteeship Council shall notify the members of the Council of the date and place of the first meeting of each session through the Secretary-General. Such notification, as a rule, shall be given at least thirty days in advance of the date of the session. Notifications shall also be addressed to the Security Council, to the Economic and Social Council, to such Members of the United Nations as have proposed an item for the agenda, and to such of the specialized agencies as may attend and participate in the meetings of the Trusteeship Council under the terms of the agreements with the United Nations.

Rule 4

Each session shall be held at the seat of the United Nations, unless in pursuance of a previous decision of the Trusteeship Council or at the request of a majority of its members another place is designated. A request for a place of meeting other than the seat of the United Nations may be made by any member of the Trusteeship Council or by the Secretary-General and shall be dealt with by a procedure similar to that provided in rule 2.

Rule 5

The Trusteeship Council may decide at any session to adjourn temporarily and resume its meetings at a later date.

II. AGENDA

Rule 6

The provisional agenda for each session of the Trusteeship Council shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General in consultation with the President and shall be communicated together with the notice summoning the Council to their organs, Members and specialized agencies referred to in rule 3.

Rule 7

The provisional agenda shall include consideration of:

- (a) Such annual reports and other documents as may have been submitted by the Administering Authorities;
- (b) Such petitions as may have been presented, a list of which shall be attached;
- (c) Arrangements for and reports on visits to Trust Territories;
- (d) All items proposed by the Trusteeship Council at a previous session;
- (e) All items proposed by any Member of the United Nations;
- (f) All items proposed by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, or a specialized agency under the terms of its agreement with the United Nations; and

(g) All items or reports which the President or the Secretary-General may deem necessary to put before the Trusteeship Council.

Rule 8

The first item on the provisional agenda of any meeting of the Trusteeship Council shall be the adoption of the agenda. The Trusteeship Council may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

III. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member of the Trusteeship Council shall designate one specially qualified person to represent it therein.

Rule 10

Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Trusteeship Council but which have proposed items on the agenda of that Council shall be invited to have present, at the appropriate meetings of the Council, representatives who shall be entitled to participate, without vote, in the deliberations on those items.

Rule 11

Representatives of specialized agencies shall be invited to attend meetings of the Trusteeship Council and to participate, without vote, in its deliberations in the circumstances indicated in the respective agreements between the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

Rule 12

1. The credentials of representatives on the Trusteeship Council shall normally be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before the meeting at which the representatives will take their seats. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the respective member Governments.

2. The credentials shall be examined by the Secretary-General, who shall submit a report thereon to the Trusteeship Council for approval.

Rule 13

1. Any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Trusteeship Council, when invited to participate in a meeting or meetings of the Council, shall submit credentials for the representative appointed by it for this purpose in the same manner as provided in rule 12. The credentials of such a representative shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before the first meeting which he is to attend.

2. The credentials of representatives referred to in the paragraph immediately preceding and of any representatives appointed in accordance with rule 72 shall be examined by the Secretary-General, who shall submit a report to the Trusteeship Council for approval.

Rule 14

The credentials of representatives of specialized agencies which have been invited to attend meetings of the Trusteeship Council in pursuance of rule 11 shall be issued by the competent officer of each such specialized agency and shall be subject to the same procedure as defined in rule 12.

Rule 15

Pending the decision on the credentials of a representative on the Trusteeship Council, such representative shall be seated provisionally and shall enjoy the same right as he would have if his credentials were found to be in good order.

Rule 16

Each representative on the Trusteeship Council may be accompanied by such alternates and advisers as he may require. An alternate or an adviser may act as a representative when so designated by the representative.

IV. PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

Rule 17

The Trusteeship Council shall elect, at the beginning of each session, if at least a year has passed since the beginning of the previous session,

a President and a Vice-President from among the representatives of the members of the Trusteeship Council.

Rule 18

The President and the Vice-President shall hold office until their respective successors are elected and for a maximal duration of five years and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election.

Rule 19

1. If the President should be temporarily absent, the Vice-President shall act as President in the same conditions.

2. In the event that the President for any reason is no longer able to act in that capacity, the Council shall elect a new President for the unexpired term. The same procedure shall be followed if the Vice-President for any reason is no longer able to act in that capacity.

Rule 20

The President may appoint one of his alternates or advisers to participate in the proceedings and to vote in the Trusteeship Council. In such a case the President shall not exercise his right to vote.

V. SECRETARIAT

Rule 21

The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity at the meetings of the Trusteeship Council and of its committees, subcommittees and such subsidiary bodies as may be established by it. The Secretary-General may authorize a deputy to act in his place.

Rule 22

The Secretary-General shall transmit promptly to the members of the Trusteeship Council all communications which may be addressed to the Council from Members and organs of the United Nations and from specialized agencies. The Secretary-General shall also circulate promptly to the members of the Council communications from other sources, except those which are manifestly inconsequential, if they relate to the activities of the Trusteeship Council. Such communications shall be

transmitted in full, unless their length precludes this, in which case the procedure set forth in paragraph 3 of rule 83 shall apply.

Rule 23

The Secretary-General shall provide and direct the staff required by the Trusteeship Council and such committees, subcommittees and other subsidiary bodies as it may establish.

Rule 24

The Secretary-General or his representative may, subject to the provisions of rule 51, make oral as well as written statements to the Council, its committees or subsidiary bodies concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 25

The Secretary-General shall be responsible for all the necessary arrangements for meetings and other activities of the Trusteeship Council, its committees, subcommittees and subsidiary bodies.

VI. LANGUAGES

Rule 26

Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the official languages. English and French shall be the working languages of the Trusteeship Council.

Rule 27

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working language.

Rule 28

Speeches made in any of the other three official languages shall be interpreted into both working languages.

Rule 29

Any representative may speak in a language other than the official languages. In such case, he shall himself provide for interpretation into one of the working languages. Interpretation into the other working

language by an interpreter of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first working language.

Rule 30

Records of meetings of the Trusteeship Council shall be drawn up in the working languages. A translation of the whole or part of any record into any of the other official languages shall be furnished if requested by any representative in the Trusteeship Council.

Rule 31

The official records of the Trusteeship Council shall be issued in the working languages.

Rule 32

All resolutions of the Trusteeship Council shall be made available in the official languages. Other documents originating with the Council shall be made available in any of the official languages at the request of representatives of members of the Council.

Rule 33

Documents of the Trusteeship Council shall, if the Trusteeship Council so decides, be published in any language other than the official languages.

VII. VOTING

Rule 34

Each member of the Trusteeship Council shall have one vote.

Rule 35

Decisions or recommendations of the Trusteeship Council shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting. Members who abstain in particular votes shall not in those instances be counted as voting.

Rule 36

If a vote other than for an election is equally divided, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting or, by decision of the Trusteeship

Council, following a brief recess. Unless at the second vote there is a majority in favour of the proposal, it shall be deemed to be lost.

Rule 37

The Trusteeship Council shall vote by show of hands except that, before a vote is taken, any representative of a member may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members of the Trusteeship Council, beginning with the member of the Trusteeship Council whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each member shall be called and the representative shall reply "Yes", "No" or "Abstention". The result of the voting shall be inserted in the record in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 38

The vote of each member participating in any roll-call shall be inserted in the record.

Rule 39

The election of the President and the Vice-President of the Trusteeship Council shall be taken by secret and separate ballot. The Council may decide that the election to any other office or function established by the Council shall also be taken by secret ballot.

Rule 40

When only one person or member is to be elected and no candidate obtains in the first ballot the majority required, a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be confined to the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If in the second ballot the votes are equally divided, the President shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.

Rule 41

When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates obtaining in the first ballot the majority required shall be elected. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of persons or members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot, the number of candidates being not more than twice as many as the places remaining to be filled.

VIII. PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 42

The meetings of the Trusteeship Council and of all of its subsidiary bodies shall be held in public, unless the Council or subsidiary body concerned decides that circumstances require that meetings be held in private.

Rule 43

At the close of private meetings, as may be appropriate, the Trusteeship Council shall issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General.

IX. RECORDS

Rule 44

The records of all public and private meetings shall be prepared by the Secretariat. They shall be made available in so far as possible within twenty-four hours of the end of the meetings to the representatives who have participated in the meetings.

Rule 45

The representatives who have participated in the meetings shall, within two working days after the distribution of the records, inform the Secretary-General of any corrections they wish to have made. Corrections that have been requested shall be considered approved, unless the President is of the opinion that they are sufficiently important to be submitted to the Trusteeship Council for approval.

Rule 46

The records of public and private meetings in which no corrections have been requested or which have been corrected in accordance with rule 45 shall be considered as the official records of the Trusteeship Council. The official records of public meetings shall be published by the Secretariat as promptly as possible and communicated to the Members of the United Nations and to the specialized agencies referred to in rule 3.

Rule 47

The official records of private meetings shall be accessible only to the Members of the United Nations, except that the Trusteeship Council may make public the records of any private meeting at such time and under such conditions as it may decide. When such records relate to strategic areas the Administering Authority concerned may request the Trusteeship Council to confine their availability to the Trusteeship and Security Councils.

X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 48

At any meeting of the Trusteeship Council two thirds of the members shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 49

In addition to exercising the powers which are conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting, direct the discussions, ensure observance of the rules of procedure, accord the right to speak, put questions and announce decisions. Subject to the rules of procedure, he shall have complete control of the proceedings of any meeting. The President, acting under the authority of the Trusteeship Council, shall represent it as an organ of the United Nations.

Rule 50

Whenever the President of the Trusteeship Council deems that for the proper fulfilment of the responsibilities of the presidency he should not preside over the Trusteeship Council during the consideration of a question with which the member he represents is directly connected, and in particular when annual reports and petitions relating to a Trust Territory of which the member he represents is the Administering Authority are under consideration, he shall indicate his decision to the Trusteeship Council. The presidency shall then devolve for the purpose of the consideration of that question upon the Vice-President.

Rule 51

No one may address the Trusteeship Council without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The chairman of a subsidiary body, or a rapporteur, or the Secretary-General, however, may be accorded precedence. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 52

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President, in accordance with the rules of procedure.

Rule 53

A representative may appeal against any ruling of the President. The appeal shall be put to the vote without discussion.

Rule 54

1. The following motions shall have precedence in the order named over all draft resolutions or other motions relative to the subject before the meeting:

- (a) To suspend the meeting;
- (b) To adjourn the meeting;
- (c) To adjourn the meeting to a certain day or hour;
- (d) For the closure of the debate on any motion or draft resolution, including amendments thereto, or on any amendment or amendments to a motion or draft resolution;
- (e) To limit the time allowed to each speaker;
- (f) To refer any matter to a committee, to the Secretary-General or to a rapporteur;
- (g) To postpone discussion of the question to a certain day or indefinitely; or
- (h) To amend.

2. Any motion for the suspension or for the simple adjournment of a meeting shall be decided without debate.

3. A motion for closure of debate on a draft resolution or other motion shall not be considered by the Trusteeship Council until each representative shall have had the opportunity to speak on that draft resolution or other motion. Debate on a motion for closure of debate shall be limited to one speaker for each side.

Rule 55

Reports, draft resolutions and other substantive motions or amendments shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General shall, to the extent possible, circulate copies to the representatives twenty-four hours in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered. The Trusteeship Council may decide to postpone the consideration of draft resolutions and other substantive motions or amendments, copies of which have not been circulated twenty-four hours in advance.

Rule 56

Draft resolutions and other motions or amendments proposed by representatives of members on the Trusteeship Council may be put to the vote without having been seconded.

Rule 57

1. Draft resolutions, motions or amendments may be withdrawn by the representative who introduced them at any time prior to the vote.

2. In a case where a representative withdraws a draft resolution, motion or amendment prior to the vote, any other representative on the Trusteeship Council may require that it be put to the vote as his draft resolution, motion or amendment under the same conditions as if the original mover had not withdrawn it.

Rule 58

Parts of a report, draft resolution, other motion or amendment may be voted on separately at the request of a representative and subject to the will of the Trusteeship Council. The proposal shall then be voted on as a whole.

Rule 59

A proposal to add to or delete from or otherwise revise a part of a draft resolution or a motion shall be considered as an amendment. An

amendment shall be voted on first and if it is adopted, the amended resolution or motion shall then be voted on.

Rule 60

If two or more amendments are moved to a draft resolution or another motion, the President shall first put to the vote the amendment furthest removed in substance from the draft resolution or motion and then the amendment next furthest removed, and so on, until all the amendments have been voted upon or an amendment has been approved which, in the opinion of the Trusteeship Council, makes voting on the remaining amendments unnecessary.

Rule 61

If two or more draft resolutions or other motions relating to an original proposal are introduced, the President shall first put to the vote the resolution or motion furthest removed in substance from the original proposal. If that draft resolution or motion is rejected, the President shall put to the vote the draft resolution or motion next furthest removed, and so on, until either all the draft resolutions or motions have been put to a vote or one or more of them has been adopted which, in the opinion of the Trusteeship Council, makes voting on the remaining proposals unnecessary.

Rule 62

A statement of minority views may be appended to a report or recommendation of the Trusteeship Council at the request of any member.

Rule 63

No resolution involving expenditure from United Nations funds shall be approved by the Trusteeship Council unless the Trusteeship Council has before it a report from the Secretary-General on the financial implications of the proposal, together with an estimate of the costs involved in the specific proposal.

XI. COMMITTEES AND RAPPORTEURS

Rule 64

The Trusteeship Council may set up such committees as it deems necessary, define their composition and their terms of reference, and refer to them any questions on the agenda for study and report. The committees may be authorized to sit while the Trusteeship Council is not in session.

Rule 65

The procedure set forth in rules 26 to 29, 34 to 36, and 49 to 61 inclusive shall apply to proceedings of committees of the Trusteeship Council. The committees may decide upon the form of the records and adopt such other rules of procedure as may be necessary.

XII. QUESTIONNAIRES

Rule 66

Upon the coming into effect of each Trusteeship Agreement, the Trusteeship Council shall transmit to the Administering Authority concerned, through the Secretary-General, such questionnaire as it shall have formulated, in accordance with Article 88 of the Charter, on the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Trust Territory involved.

Rule 67

The Trusteeship Council may modify the questionnaires at its discretion.

Rule 68

When, in accordance with Article 91 of the Charter, the Trusteeship Council considers it appropriate to avail itself of the assistance of the Economic and Social Council or of any specialized agency in the preparation of questionnaires, the President of the Trusteeship Council shall transmit through the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council or to the specialized agency concerned those sections of the questionnaires with regard to which its advice may be desired.

Rule 69

1. The questionnaire shall be communicated to each Administering Authority at least six months before the expiration of the year covered by the first annual report, and shall remain in force, without specific renewal, from year to year.

2. Any subsequent modifications shall be communicated to the Administering Authority concerned at least six months before the date fixed for the presentation of the first annual report which is to be based on the modified questionnaire.

**XIII. ANNUAL REPORTS OF ADMINISTERING
AUTHORITIES**

Rule 70

1. The annual report of an Administering Authority prepared on the basis of the questionnaire formulated by the Trusteeship Council shall be submitted to the Secretary-General within six months from the termination of the year to which it refers.

2. Each report of an Administering Authority shall be considered by the Trusteeship Council at the session following the expiration of six weeks from the receipt of the report by the Secretary-General, unless the Administering Authority concerned shall agree to an earlier examination of the report.

3. The Secretary-General shall transmit these reports without delay to the members of the Trusteeship Council.

Rule 71

The Administering Authority shall furnish to the Secretary-General 400 copies of each report for a Trust Territory. Copies of each such report shall at the same time be sent directly by the Administering Authority to the members of the Trusteeship Council as a means of expediting the work of the Council.

XIV. EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

Rule 72

In the examination of all annual reports the Administering Authority concerned shall be entitled to designate and to have present a special representative who should be well informed on the Territory involved.

Rule 73

The special representative of the Administering Authority may participate without vote in the examination and discussion of a report, except in a discussion directed to specific conclusions concerning it.

XV. PETITIONS

Rule 74

Petitions may be accepted and examined by the Trusteeship Council if they concern the affairs of one or more Trust Territories or the operation of the International Trusteeship System as laid down in the Charter, except that with respect to petitions relating to a strategic area the functions of the Trusteeship Council shall be governed by Article 83 of the Charter and the terms of the relevant Trusteeship Agreements.

Rule 75

Petitioners may be inhabitants of Trust Territories, or other parties.

Rule 76

Petitions may be presented in writing in accordance with rules 77 to 84, or orally in accordance with rules 85 to 88.

Rule 77

A written petition may be in the form of a letter, telegram, memorandum or other document concerning the affairs of one or more Trust Territories or the operation of the International Trusteeship System as laid down in the Charter.

Rule 78

1. The Trusteeship Council may hear oral presentations in support or elaboration of a previously submitted written petition. Oral presenta-

tions shall be confined to the subject-matter of the petition as stated in writing by the petitioners. The Trusteeship Council, in exceptional cases, may also hear orally petitions which have not been previously submitted in writing, provided that the Trusteeship Council and the Administering Authority concerned have been previously informed with regard to their subject-matter.

2. The President of the Council shall be authorized between sessions of the Council, through the Secretary-General, to inform any petitioner who requests an opportunity for an oral presentation or petition under this rule, that the Council will grant him a hearing at such a time and place as the President may name. Before communicating such information to the petitioner, the President shall inquire of the Administering Authority or Authorities concerned as to whether there are substantial reasons why the matter should first be discussed in the Council. If the Administering Authority is of the opinion that such substantial reasons exist, the President shall defer action until the matter has been decided by the Council.

Rule 79

Normally, petitions shall be considered inadmissible if they are directed against judgements of competent courts of the Administering Authority or if they lay before the Council a dispute with which the courts have competence to deal. This rule shall not be interpreted so as to prevent consideration by the Trusteeship Council of petitions against legislation on the grounds of its incompatibility with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations or of the Trusteeship Agreement, irrespective of whether decisions on cases arising under such legislation have previously been given by the courts of the Administering Authority.

Rule 80

Written petitions may be addressed directly to the Secretary-General or may be transmitted to him through the Administering Authority.

Rule 81

Written petitions submitted to the Administering Authority for transmission shall be communicated promptly to the Secretary-General, with or without comments by the Administering Authority, at its discretion, or with an indication that such comments will follow in due course.

Rule 82

1. Representatives of the Trusteeship Council engaged in periodic visits to Trust Territories or on other official missions authorized by the Council may accept written petitions, subject to such instructions as may have been received from the Trusteeship Council. Petitions of this kind shall be transmitted promptly to the Secretary-General for circulation to the members of the Council. A copy of each such petition shall be communicated to the competent local authority. Any observations which the visiting representatives may wish to make on the petitions, after consultation with the local representative of the Administering Authority shall be submitted to the Trusteeship Council.

2. The visiting mission shall decide which of the communications it receives are intended for its own information and which of these are petitions to be transmitted to the Secretary-General, pursuant to paragraph 1 of this rule, to be dealt with in accordance with rules 83 and 84.

Rule 83

1. The Secretary-General shall circulate promptly to the members of the Trusteeship Council all written petitions received by him which contain requests, complaints and grievances seeking action by the Trusteeship Council.

2. Petitions concerning general problems to which the attention of the Trusteeship Council has already been called and on which the Council has taken decisions or has made recommendations, as well as anonymous communications, shall be circulated by the Secretary-General in the manner provided for in rule 22.

3. In the case of lengthy petitions, the Secretary-General will first circulate a summary of the petition, the original petition being made available to the Trusteeship Council. The original petition, however, will be circulated if the President of the Trusteeship Council, during the recess of the Council, or the Council, if it is in session, so decides.

4. The Secretary General shall not circulate petitions which are manifestly inconsequential, a list of which, with a summary of their contents, shall be communicated to the members of the Trusteeship Council.

5. With respect to petitions relating to a strategic area, the functions of the Trusteeship Council shall be governed by Article 83 of the Charter and the terms of the relevant Trusteeship Agreement.

Rule 84

1. Written petitions will normally be placed on the agenda of a session provided that they shall have been received by the Administering Authority concerned either directly or through the Secretary-General at least two months before the date of the next following session.

2. The date of receipt of a petition shall be considered as being:

(a) In respect of a petition which is presented through the Administering Authority, the date on which the petition is received by the competent local authority in the Territory or the metropolitan government of the Administering Authority, as the case may be;

(b) In respect of a petition received by a visiting mission, the date on which the copy of the petition is communicated to the local authority in accordance with rule 82;

(c) In respect of a petition not presented through the Administering Authority, the date on which the petition is received by the Administering Authority through the Secretary-General. The Administering Authority concerned shall immediately notify the Secretary-General of the date of receipt of all such petitions.

3. In cases where the Administering Authority may be prepared to consider a written petition at shorter notice than is prescribed by the foregoing rules, or where, in exceptional cases, as a matter of urgency, it may be so decided by the Trusteeship Council in consultation with the Administering Authority concerned, such written petition may be placed on the agenda of a session notwithstanding that it has been presented after the due date.

4. Complete and precise written observations by the Administering Authority concerned on the petitions to which the established procedure is to be applied shall be transmitted within three months of the date of their receipt by the Administering Authority.

Rule 85

Requests to present petitions orally or to make oral presentations in support or elaboration of written petitions, in accordance with rule 78,

may be addressed directly to the Secretary-General or may be transmitted to him through the Administering Authority. In the latter case the Administering Authority concerned shall communicate such requests promptly to the Secretary-General.

Rule 86

The Secretary-General shall promptly notify the members of the Trusteeship Council of all requests for oral petitions or oral presentations received by him, except for petitions relating to a strategic area with respect to which the functions of the Trusteeship Council shall be governed by Article 83 of the Charter and the terms of the relevant Trusteeship Agreement.

Rule 87

Representatives of the Trusteeship Council engaged in periodic visits to Trust Territories or on other official missions authorized by the Council may receive oral presentations or petitions, subject to such instructions as may have been received from the Trusteeship Council. Such oral presentations or petitions shall be recorded by the visiting mission, and the record shall be transmitted promptly to the Secretary-General for circulation to the members of the Council and to the Administering Authority for comment. A copy of each such record shall be communicated to the competent local authority. Any observations which the visiting representatives may wish to make on the oral presentations or petitions, after consultation with the local representative of the Administering Authority, shall be submitted to the Trusteeship Council.

Rule 88

The Trusteeship Council may designate one or more of its representatives to accept oral petitions the subject-matter of which has been previously communicated to the Trusteeship Council and to the Administering Authority concerned. Oral petitions and oral presentations may be examined either in public or in private, as may be determined, in accordance with rule 42.

Rule 89

In the examination of all petitions the Administering Authority concerned shall be entitled to designate and to have present a special representative who should be well informed on the Territory involved.

Rule 90

The Secretary-General shall inform the Administering Authorities and the petitioners concerned of the actions taken by the Trusteeship Council on each petition, and shall transmit to them the official records of the public meetings at which the petitions were examined.

XVI. VISITS TO TRUST TERRITORIES

Rule 91

The Trusteeship Council, in accordance with the provisions of Article 87 *c* and Article 83, paragraph 3, of the Charter, as the case may be, and with the terms of the respective Trusteeship Agreements, shall make provision for periodic visits to each Trust Territory with a view to achieving the basic objectives of the International Trusteeship System.

Rule 92

The Trusteeship Council, acting in conformity with the terms of the respective Trusteeship Agreements, shall define the terms of reference of each visiting mission and shall issue to each mission such special instructions as it may consider appropriate.

Rule 93

The Trusteeship Council shall select the members of each visiting mission, who shall preferably be one or more of the representatives on the Council. Each mission may be assisted by experts and by representatives of the local administration. A mission and the individual members thereof shall, while engaged in a visit, act only on the basis of the instructions of the Council and shall be responsible exclusively to it.

Rule 94

The Trusteeship Council may, in agreement with the Administering Authority, conduct special investigations or inquiries when it considers that conditions in a Trust Territory make such action desirable.

Rule 95

All expenses of periodic visits, special investigations and inquiries, including the travel expenses of the visiting missions, shall be borne by the United Nations.

Rule 96

Each visiting mission shall transmit to the Trusteeship Council a report on its visit, a copy of which shall be promptly and, as a general rule, simultaneously transmitted to the Administering Authority and to each other member of the Trusteeship Council by the Secretary-General. The mission may authorize the Secretary-General to release its report in such form and at such date as it may deem appropriate. The report and the decisions or observations of the Council with respect to each such report, as well as the comments made by the Administering Authority concerned, may be published in such form and at such date as the Council may determine.

XVII. REPORTS OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Rule 97

Subject to the provisions of Article 88 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Trusteeship Council shall present to the General Assembly after each of its sessions a general report on its activities and on the discharge of its responsibilities under the International Trusteeship System. Each such report shall include a review of the conditions in each Trust Territory.

Rule 98

1. The sections of the general reports of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly relating to conditions in specific Trust Territories referred to in rule 97, shall take into account the annual reports of the Administering Authorities, and such other sources of information as may be available, including petitions, reports of visiting missions, and any special investigations or inquiries, as provided for in rule 94.

2. The general reports shall include, as appropriate, the conclusions of the Trusteeship Council regarding the execution and interpretation of the provisions of Chapters XII and XIII of the Charter and of the Trusteeship Agreements, and such suggestions and recommendations concerning each Trust Territory as the Council may decide.

Rule 99

The reports of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly provided for in rules 97 and 98 shall be transmitted through the Secretary-General at least thirty days before the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly.

Rule 100

The Trusteeship Council may designate the President, the Vice-President or another of its members to represent it during the consideration of its reports by the General Assembly

XVIII. OTHER FUNCTIONS

Rule 101

The Trusteeship Council shall perform such other functions as may be provided for in the Trusteeship Agreements, and, in pursuance of the duty imposed upon it by Article 85 of the Charter, may submit to the General Assembly recommendations concerning the functions of the United Nations with regard to Trusteeship Agreements, including the approval of the terms of the Trusteeship Agreements and of their alteration or amendment. With regard to strategic areas, the Trusteeship Council may similarly perform such functions in so far as it may be requested to do so by the Security Council.

XIX. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER BODIES

Rule 102

1. The Trusteeship Council shall, when appropriate, avail itself of the assistance of the Economic and Social Council, of the specialized agencies and of appropriate intergovernmental regional bodies which may be separately established, relating to matters with which they may be concerned.

2. The Secretary-General shall promptly communicate to these bodies the annual reports of the Administering Authorities and such reports and other documents of the Trusteeship Council as may be of special concern to them.

XX. SUSPENSION OF RULES

Rule 103

When the Trusteeship Council is in session, a rule of procedure may be suspended by decision of the Council.

XXI. AMENDMENT

Rule 104

These rules of procedure may be amended by the Trusteeship Council. Normally, a vote shall not be taken until four days after a proposal for amendment has been submitted.