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SUB-COMMITTEE II BEGINS CONSIDERATION OF NEW HEBRIDES

Elects Chairman and Rapporteur

Sub-Committee II* of the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization, which is concerned with matters relating to small Territories, the question of visiting missions to Trust Territories and with Territories in the Pacific, held its first meeting of the year this afternoon.

It elected Barakat Ahmad (India) as its Chairman, and Satya N. Nandan (Fiji) as Rapporteur.

The Sub-Committee then decided that its work should begin with the New Hebrides.

The Chairman, Mr. AHMAD said it should be recalled that, in previous years, the Sub-Committee has had to defer its consideration of the Trust Territories until after these had been considered by the Trusteeship Council. Members might wish to continue this practice this year in order to benefit from the work which the Council had done in this area.

In this connexion, it would be recalled that a mission had visited Papua New Guinea this year to observe the elections to the Third House of Assembly, he noted. Two members of the Special Committee of 24 had participated in that mission, he added.

It was his understanding that that mission's report would be circulated shortly.

He went on to say that another mission would soon be visiting Niue, and that a report would also be forthcoming from that mission.

The Sub-Committee will meet again at a date to be announced.

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* Members of the Sub-Committee are Afghanistan, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, Indonesia and Iraq.