

formal meetings, the minutes of which are kept in English and Italian.

In some instances, members of the Integration Commission participate in special commissions appointed by the Government to prepare draft legislation. For example, the National Assembly established a Special Commission, consisting of eleven deputies and ten legal experts (including all the legal experts of the Integration Commission), responsible for the preparation of the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Traffic Code and the Judiciary Law. In other cases, individual members of the Commission are requested by Ministers to prepare legislation on specific subjects.

The Commission's aim has been to prepare laws as modern as possible, expressed in simple and clear language, and suited to local conditions. In drafting legislation, it takes into account the existing laws in both parts of the Republic, as well as those of other countries on the subject under consideration.

The integrated legislation enacted by the National Assembly since independence includes such fundamental laws as the Act of Union, the Law on the Organization of the Government, the Civil Service Law, the Law on the Organization of the Judiciary, the Citizenship Law, the Finance and Accounting Procedure of the State, the Public Order Law, the Law on Local Administration and Local Council Elections, the Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Political Elections Law.

[Extracted from report of Dr. P. Contini, Chairman, Consultative Commission for Integration, Mogadiscio, 31st March, 1964]

## **INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN LAW ASSOCIATION NEWS**

A local group of the Association has been formed at Jos, Nigeria. The inaugural meeting was attended by eight barristers, among whom the following officers were appointed:

Chairman: J. N. I. Ezekwe, Esq.

Vice-Chairman: A. A. Ezenobi, Esq.

Secretary: Owen Okorokobiko, Esq.

Patrons: (1) The Senior Puisne Judge

(2) The President of the Provincial Court.

Discussions at the meeting were exploratory, but the aim is to foster a better understanding of African law. To achieve this end it was unanimously agreed that members should be encouraged and assisted to conduct individual research into particular aspects of Nigerian law.

Membership is open to anyone interested in law, and Alkalai will be invited to deliver lectures on native law and custom. Frequent discussions on African law will also be encouraged.

[Reported by Owen Okorokobiko]