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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

EXECUTIVE BOARD

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SECOND MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York  
on 17 March 1955, at 11 a.m.

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PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. RAJAN	India
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. QUIJANO	Argentina
	Mr. CUTTS	Australia
	Mr. LHOIR	Belgium
	Mr. SILVEIRA da MOTA	Brazil
	Mr. MOLCHANOV	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic
	Mrs. SINCLAIR	Canada
	Mr. TSAO	China
	Mr. SVOBODA	Czechoslovakia
	Mr. AMANRICH	France
	Mr. CARAYANNIS	Greece
	Mr. KHALIDY	Iraq
	Mrs. HARMAN	Israel
	Mr. MONTINI	Italy
	Mr. KITAHARA	Japan
	Mr. DONS	Norway
	Mr. NAIK	Pakistan
	Mrs. PASCUAL	Philippines
	Mr. LINDT	Switzerland
	Mr. KRIVITSKY	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
	Mr. BARNES	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. MULLIKEN	United States of America
	Mr. RODRIGUEZ-FABRIGAT	Uruguay
	Mr. KOS	Yugoslavia

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. WORK	Food and Agriculture Organization
Dr. COIGNY ) Mrs. MEAGHER )	World Health Organization

Representatives of non-governmental organizations:

Category A:

Mrs. FOX	World Federation of United Nations Associations
Miss KADANE	Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations
Miss GUTHRIE	International Alliance of Women
Mrs. KAUFMANN-FRANKENSTEIN	International Union for Child Welfare
Mrs. FREEMAN	(NGO Committee on UNICEF (International Council of Women

UNICEF Administration:

Mr. PATE	Executive Director
Mr. HEYWARD	Deputy Executive Director
Dr. BORCIC	Deputy Executive Director
Dr. DAVEE	Director, Latin America Regional Office
Mr. EGGER	Director, Africa, Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office
Mr. KEENY	Director, Asia Regional Office
Mr. CHARNOW	Secretary of the Board

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA (E/ICEF/281/Add.2)

Mr. EGGER (Director, Africa, Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office) read his statement contained in document E/ICEF/291.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Egger for his remarkable statement, which showed the direction which efforts to solve problems peculiar to Africa should take.

Mr. AMANRICH (France) thanked Mr. Egger and the UNICEF Administration for their devotion and zeal. The French delegation had noted with satisfaction the work done by UNICEF on the African continent. He stressed the importance of problems raised by food shortages and added that UNICEF might give its support to the education of mothers by using the associations and various women's clubs which were developing in those areas.

Mr. BARNES (United Kingdom) associated himself with the tribute paid to Mr. Egger for his report and statement. The United Kingdom delegation was pleased with the good relations between the authorities in the United Kingdom dependent territories and UNICEF representatives and noted with satisfaction that co-operation was increasing daily.

Mr. MONTINI (Italy), after thanking Mr. Egger for his eloquent statement, said that the Italian Administration had already done much in Somaliland, especially for the control of malaria (E/ICEF/L.756, paragraphs 7-8). There was still much to be done, particularly in the fight against tuberculosis. In spite of Italy's undoubtedly wide experience in malaria control, it could not fully succeed in its task unless UNICEF gave it more help. Direct action was needed more than studies and advice. UNICEF should not just confine itself to a campaign against any particular disease, but should try to improve the social situation as a whole, as was being done in Kenya and other African territories. European countries which had long standing relations with the African peoples should naturally assume some of the responsibility for such a big task.

Mr. LHOIR (Belgium) also congratulated Mr. Egger. The researches of other organizations corroborated his conclusions. Something should be done about health education, especially in East Africa, for economic, social and intellectual progress depended on it.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ-FABREGAT (Uruguay), after thanking Mr. Egger, asked for more information on certain points.

He would like to know what part UNICEF had played in the work of the Committee on South West Africa established by the General Assembly.

He also asked whether the political difficulties in the East African territories to which Mr. Egger referred had entailed additional expenses for an organization like UNICEF. The problem of public health was of course of primary importance, but UNICEF should obtain guarantees about the use of funds and make sure that the people benefited from them in spite of political difficulties.

The incidence of endemic diseases in East Africa was surprising, for the same diseases were only sporadic in West Africa. While the contrast might be attributable to the difference in climate, it would be useful to have more information about such an important problem.

Finally, he asked whether UNICEF had helped in the construction of hospitals, in the campaign against sleeping-sickness and in the social work of religious missions - questions of particular significance for East Africa.

Mr. HEYWARD (Deputy Executive Director) replied that UNICEF had been invited by the Assistant Secretary-General to co-operate with the Committee on South West Africa and the specialized agencies in order to carry out the General Assembly resolution, which raised many problems of co-ordination.

In East Africa UNICEF had helped to establish a network of health centres which were primarily concerned with the preventive aspects of maternal and child welfare. Preparatory studies on epidemic diseases were being successfully conducted in East Africa and work had begun in Tanganyika, Uganda and Kenya. Two pilot zones had been set up in Kenya and Northern Rhodesia and projects were under consideration in British Somaliland and Somaliland under Italian administration.

(Mr. Heyward, Deputy Executive Director)

Several African territories had long perfected methods of controlling sleeping-sickness and did not need any help from UNICEF in that respect.

AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD (E/ICEF/177,  
E/ICEF/L.717)

The CHAIRMAN invited the Board to take up agenda item 8 concerning proposed amendments to the rules of procedure of the Executive Board. After recalling the circumstances in which the Executive Director had been invited to submit the amendments to the Board, he read the amendments proposed to rules 56 and 64 of the rules of procedure. (E/ICEF/L.717).

Mr. CUTTS (Australia) said that his delegation supported the new draft of articles 56 and 64. In particular, he thought it very desirable that the Chairman of the Committee on Administrative Budget should be elected directly by the Board in view of the importance of his duties.

The amendments to rules 56 and 64 of the rules of procedure (E/ICEF/L.717) were adopted.

The CHAIRMAN thought that the English text of rule 34 of the rules of procedure should perhaps be changed. The expression "allocation of relief", which had been justified when the original text had been drafted, was now out of date. He therefore proposed that the words "If the allocation of relief ...." should be replaced by the words "If an allocation...."

Mr. LINDT (Switzerland) supported that suggestion.

The amendment the Chairman proposed to article 34 was adopted.

CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS (E/ICEF/260/Rev.1, paragraph 178)

Mr. MULLIKEN (United States of America) thought it opportune to draw the Board's attention to a question to which his delegation attached much

(Mr. Mulliken, United States of America)

importance: the observance of rule 3 of the rules of procedure, which had already been raised on several occasions, and, in particular, in the Programme Committee.

The United States delegation was well aware that, at its previous session, the Executive Board had reached the conclusion that a certain degree of flexibility was necessary in the application of the rule (E/ICEF/260/Rev.1, paragraph 178). Nevertheless, it was much concerned about the delay in the circulation of UNICEF documents and especially the documents relating to the present session of the Executive Board and the Programme Committee.

The United States Government was deeply interested in the work of UNICEF and the competent services had to examine the proposals made by the Administration in order to determine the country's official position. It was often difficult, and sometimes even impossible, to do so when documents were circulated late. The people concerned in the United States were becoming increasingly dissatisfied with such a state of affairs. His delegation would be sorry to have to abstain during a vote on a recommendation submitted by the Administration merely because it had not had time to study it carefully, but that might well happen if rule 3 continued to be ignored.

He therefore formally proposed that the Board should again draw the Administration's attention to the difficulties caused by delays in the circulation of documents and requested that his delegation's opinion on the subject should be included in the Board's report.

Mr. BARNES (United Kingdom), as his delegation had raised the same question the year before, supported what the United States representative had said.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ-FABRIGAT (Uruguay) pointed out that the production of documents was undoubtedly a very hard task and that probably explained the delay. His delegation had always been struck by the quality and quantity of the documentation submitted to the Board. Nevertheless, the provisions of rule 3 should be applied and he therefore supported the United States proposal.

Mr. CUTTS (Australia) said that his delegation supported the conclusions reached by the Board at its previous session, that there might be some flexibility in the application of rule 3 where specific projects were concerned. However, departure from strict application of the rule should only be accepted when that was absolutely necessary to avoid unacceptable delay in the implementation of a project.

The CHAIRMAN said that the United States representative's comments would be included in the Board's report. The Administration would certainly take them into account and do all it could to follow rule 3.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.