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**REPORT OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR REFUGEES**

**Addendum**



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## NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council at its eighteenth session, after considering my report to the ninth session of the General Assembly (A/2648),<sup>1</sup> adopted resolution 549 (XVIII), relating in particular, to chapter IV of the report. The resolution stated, *inter alia*, that

*"The Economic and Social Council...*

*"Expresses the opinion that the programme submitted by the High Commissioner for granting emergency aid, as well as for the implementation of permanent solutions for the refugee problem, contains constructive elements for an effective attempt at coping with the problem;*

*"Invites the High Commissioner to make available to the General Assembly, at its ninth regular session, such additional information as might facilitate the General Assembly's task in its consideration of the High Commissioner's proposals."*

2. It will be realized that the complete elaboration of a programme which must be implemented in a number of different countries is impossible until the General Assembly has taken a decision of principles to approve such a programme and until there is some indication of the amount which will be available for its execution.

3. One method of supplying the additional information to the General Assembly might be to give some indication concerning geographical allocations. But as was pointed out in paragraph 235 of my report, any satisfactory geographical distribution of funds would have to be worked out with my Advisory Committee, to which precise projects under the different headings of the programme would be submitted for approval once the General Assembly has taken a decision of principle on the programme.

4. An alternative method which therefore seems more suitable at the present stage is to provide the General Assembly with outlines of sample projects under some of the headings of the programme in order that the Assembly may have some clear view of the type of projects which could be implemented under a programme for permanent solutions if the necessary funds were forthcoming.

5. The outlines of sample projects which are listed below have been elaborated by my representatives in consultation with representatives of the local authorities and the private organizations working on behalf of refugees in their different countries of residence. In some of the projects indications are given concerning the amount of supporting funds which would become available. It will, however, be realized that it is not always possible to obtain from any local authorities precise commitments for supporting funds until there is a clearer indication of how much money might be available to finance the particular projects.

6. It must be emphasized again that the basic principle of any programme, financed in part from outside sources, for the promotion of permanent solutions for the problems of refugees, is that contributions from those sources must be of a supplementary character and cannot relieve the countries of residence from their general responsibility for finding a solution for the problems of refugees within their territories. It is, however, clear that in several countries, unless some such contribution from outside is forthcoming, it is unreasonable to expect that permanent solutions can be achieved within any reasonable period of time.

7. In many fields of activity leading to the promotion of permanent solutions for the problems of refugees, credit facilities would be available to refugees if they were in the position to put down the initial sum of money required in order to benefit from such facilities. Some of the sample projects listed below would enable refugees to bridge the gap which at present prevents them from taking advantage of the possibilities which do, in fact, exist for nationals in the present countries of residence of the refugees.

8. Wherever possible, the projects have been worked out on the basis of a revolving fund. The precise policy in respect of the revolution of these funds would be a matter for decision by the Advisory Committee if it were given authority over the programme. It might, however, be useful at this stage to point out that revolving funds devoted to work on behalf of refugees may take different forms:

- (a) They may revolve back to a parent fund;
- (b) They may revolve to a special account established in each of the countries in which projects are carried out;
- (c) They may revolve back to the credit of the private organizations entrusted with the execution of the projects.

9. The sample projects listed below are designed to accelerate the possibilities both for overseas resettlement of refugees and their economic integration in their present countries of residence. They would be directed primarily to solving the problems of refugees still living in camps and who are capable of becoming normal, self-supporting citizens provided that they are given the necessary initial help.

10. The experience of the past three years has shown that the overseas resettlement possibilities for refugees can be greatly improved, as long as few mass selection schemes are in operation, by increased vocational training and projects designed to obtain sponsorships in the countries of immigration.

11. In the field of economic integration experience has also shown that much can be done if refugees are put in a position where they can avail themselves of opportunities for vocational training or technical education or if they are provided with very modest loans to enable them to find homes near centres of employment or to establish themselves on farms or in small businesses.

<sup>1</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Supplement No. 13.

# SAMPLE PROJECTS FOR A PROGRAMME OF PERMANENT SOLUTIONS

## A. Integration into agriculture

### I. AUSTRIA

#### *Project for the integration of eighty refugees into agriculture in Austria*

1. There are in Austria some tens of thousands of refugees who were formerly engaged in agriculture. Many are now living, unemployed, in camps or in urban areas. Possibilities for their integration either in independent holdings or as farm labourers exist. However, due to the lack of capital both on the part of the refugees themselves and on the part of the Austrian authorities, it is not possible for such refugees to take advantage of existing possibilities.

2. A first attempt in this direction was made early in 1953 when the amount of ten million Austrian schillings (US \$385,000) was allocated from counterpart funds within the framework of the United States economic programme for the integration of refugees in Austrian agriculture. To this amount were added contributions from Austrian local authorities and over seven million schillings (\$270,000) from the refugees themselves, mainly in the form of labour. This enabled 262 refugee families, consisting of approximately 1,500 people, to acquire farm leases or housing and farm buildings on unoccupied land. In addition, grants under the Ford Foundation Fund, amounting to \$87,800, were made for similar schemes under the auspices of the voluntary agencies. In December 1953, a further allocation of ten million schillings was made from counterpart funds for the same purposes as above.

3. Additional refugee families would be enabled to take over farms and to acquire agricultural buildings if the second ten million schillings scheme could be supplemented by funds from outside sources.

4. Accordingly, in consultation with the Austrian federal and local authorities, a refugee organization in Austria has proposed the following project to enable twenty additional refugee families (approximately eighty persons) to be integrated into agriculture in Styria by the provision of loans to the refugees, 80 per cent of the cost to be provided from Austrian sources, and 20 per cent from outside.

5. The project envisages:

(a) Granting long-term loans (twenty years) on a 2 per cent interest basis to enable ten refugee farmers to purchase farms of five to ten hectares each sufficient for the support of a farming family. A loan of \$11,500 would be required from outside sources, while an additional \$48,000 would be contributed from Austrian sources, mainly governmental funds.

(b) Granting long-term credits (forty years) on a 2 per cent interest basis to ten refugees capable of farm labour for the construction of small houses on land owned by the applicants. A loan of \$6,000 would be required from outside sources, while an additional \$24,600 would be contributed from Austrian sources, mainly governmental funds.

6. The total amount required from outside sources would thus be: \$11,500 plus \$6,000 or a total of \$17,500.

### II. ITALY

#### *Project for the establishment on the land in Italy of thirty-five refugees with little prospect of emigration*

1. There are a certain number of refugees in Italy, in camps and out of camps, who have no chance of emigrating. This group includes particularly the chronically sick, former tubercular patients and refugees suffering from various physical disabilities who are unable to satisfy the usual criteria for immigration and who have no family or sponsors able to facilitate their admission to another country. A voluntary agency has elaborated a project, based on past experience, to group these refugees together with other refugees, whose age and state of health enables them to work, and to entrust to the whole group the exploitation of a farm suitably equipped to accommodate them.

2. Experience has shown that it takes two years for an enterprise of this sort to become self-supporting and thus to provide maintenance for the refugees and their families. It would further be necessary for the refugees to receive, during those two years, the help and advice of a manager, whose salary must be included in the budget for establishing the enterprise. This budget, for a farm able to accommodate thirty-five refugees and the members of their families, would amount to a total of \$60,000, of which rather more than half, i.e., \$32,680, would be contributed by various voluntary agencies interested in the project.

3. A detailed breakdown of the cost is given below:

Purchase of the property .....	\$24,000
Equipment of the house .....	6,000
Farm equipment (tools, machines) .....	10,000
Cost of maintaining the refugees for two years .....	16,000
Manager's salary for two years .....	4,000
<hr/>	
TOTAL	\$60,000

## B. Establishment in trades, small businesses and professions

### III. GREECE

#### *Project for the establishment of 160 refugee families in Greece in trades, small businesses and professions*

1. A large number of the refugees in Greece live in the Athens-Piraeus area. Although this area is economically the most developed region of the country, efforts to provide the refugees with employment in industrial and commercial enterprises have met with considerable difficulties owing to the general economic position of the country and particularly to the number of unemployed. Further, more than 40 per cent of the refugees in Greece were normally engaged in trades and crafts, and a few in professions, and this also has made the employment of refugees in industrial enterprises more difficult.

2. The best method of re-establishing this group of refugees on a sound economic and social basis consists of furthering the creation of small businesses in various trades and crafts. Valuable experience has been gained in other countries in establishing refugees in trades and crafts by granting them small loans on adequate terms. The most successful example of this was the establishment in Germany of a Non-German

Refugees Branch of the Expellee Bank in Bad Godesberg. Although the conditions prevailing in Greece are different from those in other countries, the experience obtained elsewhere will, nevertheless, be most valuable for implementing the project described.

3. In Greece, a few refugees have succeeded in establishing themselves in such independent occupations with the assistance provided either by their family and personal relations or by voluntary societies. The main difficulty to be overcome for the larger part of this group is the scarcity of capital in Greece which makes normal banking credits difficult to obtain, and, moreover, much too expensive to enable new small businesses to be started on a sound economic basis. The Greek Government, being aware of this general situation, has taken measures providing various categories of producers with cheap credit, but it has not been possible up to now to extend this preferential treatment to refugees.

4. This project is intended to establish at least 160 refugee families of Greek ethnic origin, from Romania, in trades and crafts, mainly in the Athens-Piraeus area, by the provision of loans of an average amount of an equivalent of \$800, totalling an equivalent of \$128,000.

5. Under this project, a Credit Committee would be created with the participation of a representative of the Greek authorities and of economic and financial experts. The task of the Committee would consist of selecting the applications and of fixing the terms of each individual loan on its merits. The loans would be granted at a low rate of interest and the refugees would be given an initial period free of amortization, to enable them to establish their venture on a firm basis. Use would be made of the service of a normal, commercial bank for the administration of the loans from a technical point of view. No capital investment being required from the bank, the latter would be reimbursed only with the administrative expenses actually incurred, out of the interest yielded by the loan fund as well as by the outstanding loans.

6. The Greek Government has given its approval to the policy of the integration of Romanian refugees of Greek ethnic origin, and has also agreed to exempt this project from any stamp duties and other official expenses normally required for loans of this kind.

7. The reimbursements on outstanding loans would accrue to the loan fund which would thus work on a revolving basis. To the loan fund would also be credited the interests after deduction of the administrative expenses. The number of 160 families relates therefore only to the distribution of the initial amount of \$128,000; this number would be increased gradually when reimbursements became available to the loan fund. It is thus believed that by this project a substantial contribution to the economic integration of refugees in Greece could be made in the course of a few years.

8. Cost of the project: 160 loans at \$800, or a total of \$128,000.

#### IV. FRANCE

*Project for the establishment of a special enterprise in France to give employment to sixty handicapped refugees*

1. Integration into the French economy is comparatively easy in the case of young able-bodied refugees. For elderly refugees, some categories of intellectuals,

and refugees unable to do hard physical work because they are disabled or infirm, the situation is different.

2. This project is designed to give employment to such refugees in a special enterprise, organized with the technical co-operation of the Ministries of Labour and Health. It provides for the setting up of a workshop for the manufacture of clothing, and would give employment to sixty refugees. The enterprise would consist of: a mass production workshop, a cutting room, a room for the despatch of work to the homes of employees unable to travel to work, a workshop for trainees and management and book-keeping offices.

3. The cost of setting up the establishment and running it for one year would total \$22,500, excluding the salaries of the refugees. During the first year, the entire salaries of the refugees, amounting to \$30,000, would be met by the French Government, which would, in addition, pay the salaries of the specialized staff which the authorities would second to the enterprise. After the first year, any losses which might be incurred by the establishment—which could not be expected to be profit-making in the same way as a normal commercial enterprise—would also be borne by the State. This would ensure that the refugees would in any case receive the salary to which their work entitled them.

4. The cost of setting up the establishment and operating it for one year would total \$22,500, and includes the following items:

Equipment of the mass production workshop, twelve sewing-machines and one machine for making buttonholes .....	3,450
Equipment of the cutting room, including a cutting-table, electric scissors, etc .....	700
Equipment for work in the refugees' homes, including one delivery van, ten sewing-machines, etc.....	3,600
Equipment of the vocational training workshop, including twelve sewing-machines .....	3,500
Heating, lighting, etc., installation and maintenance costs .....	3,150
Salaries of instructors and management .....	8,100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$22,500</b>

#### V. AUSTRIA

*Project for the establishment of 500 refugees in trades, small businesses and professions in Austria*

1. Amongst the 230,000 refugees living in Austria, besides large numbers of refugees of rural extraction or belonging to the working class, there are also important groups of typically urban population formerly established in independent occupations, crafts, trades and professions.

2. In several parts of Austria initiatives have been taken in order to further the establishment of refugees in independent occupations. These initiatives have been encouraged by the Austrian authorities, by the High Commissioner and particularly by international and Austrian voluntary societies. The most efficient method has been to set up credit machinery to grant small loans at reasonable terms. Although hundreds of refugee families have been unable to start a new life by the various initiatives taken, the number of refugees in Austria is so high that much still remains to be done in this field.

3. This project is intended to supplement the activity of a Refugee Credit Association in Linz, Upper Austria. It is estimated that a supplementary contribu-

tion of \$46,000 will make possible the creation of seventy enterprises, which would give employment to some 500 refugees.

4. The characteristic feature of this project is to supplement the financial efforts of the refugees themselves, as a relatively sizeable amount is available to the Credit Association in the form of saving deposits. However, the individual savings of refugees are not sufficient to enable them to establish themselves on their own.

5. Although there is no direct governmental contribution to the project, the Credit Association benefits from guarantees of the Government of Upper Austria and of the Municipality of Linz for a part of their outstanding loans.

6. The individual loans are granted by the Refugee Credit Association in conformity with its terms of reference and, if necessary, with the assistance of a local savings-bank. The loans are granted at a low rate of interest and the reimbursement period is adjusted to each individual case in order not to jeopardize the economic prospects of the enterprise.

7. The contribution required from outside amounts to \$46,000. This sum would be lent to the Credit Association, which would use it on a revolving basis. It is anticipated that the turnover would be relatively quick and that the sum of \$46,000 could be repaid by the refugees within one year and thereby become available to assist in the financing of other enterprises.

8. The total funds required are equivalent to \$230,000, consisting of:

Austrian resources, including refugees' savings and funds of the Credit Association .....	184,000
Outside contribution .....	46,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$230,000</b>

### C. Construction of housing in employment areas

#### VI. GREECE

##### *Project for housing construction in Greece on behalf of 100 Romanian refugee families of Greek ethnic origin*

1. Most of the Romanian refugees of Greek ethnic origin came to Greece after 1947, bringing with them only the minimum of personal effects. An important part of this group still lives in camp under very difficult conditions. Among other serious problems facing them is that of finding permanent and adequate housing. If their housing problem were solved through a plan of establishment in regions where employment opportunities exist, they could be considered as definitely established.

2. The Greek Government has recognized the seriousness of this problem and after preliminary discussions with the High Commissioner's branch office in Athens, it seems that they would give favourable consideration to participating in the financing of the implementation of a plan for building houses in the Athens area, where facilities for employment exist, if funds from outside sources could be made available. A contribution of \$500 per unit would be required from outside sources to establish a revolving fund for the construction of houses. Contributions of approximately \$700 per unit could be expected from other, mainly governmental, sources.

3. For the implementation of the project a committee would be set up consisting of representatives of

the Government, the High Commissioner, the agencies which would participate in the financing of the project and the refugees themselves. This committee would examine the candidates, taking into account the families' needs and ability to repay.

4. The rents paid by the refugees occupying these houses would be utilized for the amortization of mortgage loans, and the houses would become the property of the refugees after the mortgage loans have been reimbursed.

5. The sum which would be needed for this project from outside sources for the construction of 100 units would therefore be \$50,000.

#### VII. AUSTRIA

##### *Three projects for the construction of 108 houses for 430 refugees in Austria*

1. There are approximately 42,000 refugees still living in Federal camps in Austria. Furthermore, there are several thousand additional refugees living in unofficial camps and in conditions of squalor. It is vital that these camps be closed. However, in order to close the camps, sufficient alternative accommodation must be provided for the refugees. This housing accommodation must be constructed in areas where employment is available. However, due to lack of capital, both on the part of the refugees themselves and on the part of the Austrian authorities, it is not possible at present for sufficient housing to be constructed to permit closing down the camps, many of which are over ten years old.

2. Sums amounting to \$251,664 were made available from the Ford Foundation Fund for housing schemes for refugees in Austria, under the auspices of the voluntary agencies. The federal authorities are in a position to provide loans for the housing up to 60 per cent of the total cost. A further 20 per cent can be provided by the Austrian local authorities and by the refugees themselves. This leaves a gap of 20 per cent which, at present, cannot be covered. If outside assistance could be provided in the form of loans to cover this missing 20 per cent of the cost of the housing, steps could be taken immediately to construct the houses and so to begin to close the camps.

3. Three specimen projects have been drawn up by refugee associations in Austria in consultation with the Austrian federal and Land authorities. These projects show that some 80 per cent of the cost of the housing can be provided by federal and local authorities and by the refugees in all three projects. The three projects would provide 108 one-family houses for approximately 430 refugees. However, it is not possible to start the building until the financial planning is complete and the missing 20 per cent of the cost found. Under present circumstances this can be found only from outside sources.

4. The three projects are:

(a) To build 15 two-family houses for refugees at present living in barracks, at Leonding near Linz, Upper Austria, to accommodate thirty families, consisting of approximately 120 persons. A contribution of \$29,000 from outside sources is required to grant long-term loans on a revolving basis. An additional amount of \$109,000 would be contributed from Austrian sources, mainly governmental, and some labour would be contributed by the refugees themselves.

(b) To construct 50 one-family houses for refugees at present living in barracks, at Kapfenberg, in Styria,



to accommodate fifty families, consisting of approximately 200 persons. A contribution of \$32,500 from outside sources is required to grant long-term loans on a revolving basis. An additional amount of \$183,000 would be contributed from Austrian sources, mainly governmental, and some labour would be contributed by the refugees themselves.

(c) To build 28 one-family houses at Elixhausen, near Salzburg, for approximately 110 refugees who are at present living in barracks. A contribution of \$26,500 from outside sources is required to grant long-term loans on a revolving basis. An additional amount of \$114,500 would be contributed from Austrian sources, mainly governmental, and labour would be provided by the refugees themselves.

5. The total amount required from outside sources would thus be:

15 houses at Leonding .....	29,000
56 houses at Kapfenberg .....	32,500
28 houses at Elixhausen .....	26,500

Total \$38,000

## D. Assistance to university students

### VIII. BELGIUM

#### *Assistance to 100 refugee university students in Belgium*

1. The Belgian Government grants 150 to 200 scholarships each year to young refugees with special aptitudes, to enable them to follow courses of study at a university. The scholarships, which give adequate help in the case of refugees who can count on some aid from their families or friends, are insufficient to enable refugees with no such assistance to continue their studies. The scholarships give an allowance of \$40 to \$50 per month for ten months of the year, which is not enough to pay for the refugee's maintenance as well as for the books and scientific equipment he may require.

2. A monthly allowance of \$100 would cover these requirements, and if granted to 100 of the most destitute among the refugee scholarship-holders in Belgium, would enable them to continue their studies and to maintain at the same time a reasonable standard of living. Under the Ford Foundation grant for refugees, a project similar to the one proposed worked very successfully.

3. The value of the scholarships granted by the Belgian authorities to 100 students totals \$50,000. The cost of the additional help required for this number of students would be \$10,000.

### IX. GERMANY

#### *Project for assisting 225 refugee students in Germany*

1. Each year there are in Germany a considerable number of young foreign refugees who are anxious for, and capable of, university studies. Great difficulties are experienced by these refugees in maintaining themselves at the universities. For the most part they are not eligible for any scholarships, nor do they have relations and friends in Germany from whom they can receive subsistence. It is practically impossible for a foreign refugee to find part-time work of the kind which fits in with the demands of study.

2. In conjunction with the High Commissioner, the appropriate German agency has made an inquiry into the present social and economic position of these refu-

gee students. There are three categories of students for whom help is absolutely necessary if they are to continue their studies and become self-supporting members of the community.

(a) It is known that at least 180 students, who will be taking their final examinations in the period up to the winter term of 1956, will not possess the average sum of \$50 which is needed for examination fees. The students are not in a position to meet these fees since all their resources are spent on bare maintenance. In addition, these students are in urgent need of material assistance in order to continue living and studying.

(b) There are at least twenty refugee students living at the present time on unemployment relief. According to the regulations of the German universities, students may not live on unemployment relief and continue attendance at the university. Therefore, unless help is forthcoming, these students cannot continue their studies, but will have to give up their university career.

(c) It is known that there are twenty-five refugee students with dependent children who have less than \$50 a month with which to maintain their families. To ease the burden of these students an amount of \$25 per month should be made available for them. This would total \$7,500 for one year. This amount is insufficient by itself to maintain the families but would go towards assisting them, together with their other resources.

3. Accordingly, the German agency has prepared the following project to meet this situation, and to ensure that the young refugees do not have to give up their studies:

Examination fees for 180 examination candidates ....	9,000
Emergency assistance to these students .....	7,500
Support for continuing studies for 20 students for six months .....	3,500
Support of students families, 25 families for one year	7,500

Total \$27,500

4. The German agency is prepared to contribute to this amount the sum of \$7,500 as a loan fund for emergency assistance to students preparing for their examinations. All grants to students under this project would be loans. The total project thus amounts to \$27,500, which would be a revolving fund. While the German agency could contribute \$7,500, the remaining \$20,000 must be found from outside sources if these 225 refugee students are to continue their studies.

## E. Promotion of resettlement opportunities

### X. OVERSEAS COUNTRIES

#### *Project for the promotion of resettlement opportunities for 5,000 refugees in overseas countries*

1. In view of the fact that during the last few years there have been few mass selection schemes for immigration from which substantial numbers of refugees could benefit, it is recognized at the present time that the most effective means of promoting the emigration of refugees is by obtaining sponsorship for individual refugee families.

2. Several projects for the promotion of resettlement opportunities in countries of immigration over the period 1 January 1953 to 30 June 1954, financed under the Ford Foundation grant for refugees, have been most successful. Some thousands of refugees ad-

mitted to Australia, Canada and a number of Latin-American countries during the last few years were able to obtain the necessary sponsorship through these schemes.

3. The continuation and expansion of these services, provided by voluntary agencies for the promotion of resettlement opportunities along the above-mentioned lines, are considered essential for obtaining continued immigration possibilities for refugee families. A project to supply these services for one year, designed to promote the resettlement of 5,000 refugees, would require a contribution from outside sources of \$65,000. This sum would be used for small offices run by the voluntary agencies, who would work to obtain the necessary sponsorships and to organize the reception and placement of the refugees. The agencies would themselves make available an additional amount of \$50,500 for the project.

## F. Vocational training and re-training

### XI. ITALY

#### *Vocational training and retraining for resettlement overseas of 500 refugees in Italy*

1. In view of the serious over-population and unemployment existing in Italy, local integration can only be considered to be the solution for a small number of the refugees already in that country, or who still continue to enter Italy in search of temporary asylum. Emigration must therefore constitute the main solution to the problem of the refugees in Italy. For this reason it is most important to put into effect a systematic programme of vocational training or re-training for the professions most generally demanded by the immigration countries.

2. This project would, on the one hand, enable refugees to benefit from the facilities already existing in Italy, by enabling them to pay for certain incidental expenses such as meals and transport and, on the other hand, would make it possible for vocational training courses to be organized in camps where they are lacking at present. This project applies to three categories of refugees:

#### *(a) 200 refugees residing in camps at Capua and Aversa maintained by the Amministrazione Aiuti Internazionali*

Training would be provided in the camps for 200 persons in bricklaying, plumbing, plastering, and housecarpentry, which are the four trades most frequently sought by reception countries.

#### *(b) 200 refugees residing in the Rome area*

The Italian authorities are willing to accept refugees in the Italian vocational training schools. A vocational training school already established in Rome would be prepared to accept up to 200 refugees for training in a number of trades.

#### *(c) 100 refugees residing out of camp outside the Rome area*

Refugees could receive training in local schools, provided funds were available to pay the low registration fees, books and small incidentals.

3. The project would cost:

Group (a): Cost of instructors and material (for 100 persons in each camp) .....	6,400
Group (b): Cost of one year's entrance fees for 200 students .....	3,200
Mid-day meal, tram fares .....	16,000

Group (c): Cost of registration fees, books and small equipment for 100 students ..... 10,000

Total cost of assistance for 500 refugees for one year's training ..... \$35,600

### XII. GREECE

#### *Project for vocational training and re-training of 200 refugees in Greece for resettlement overseas*

1. The main hope of providing solutions for the problem of many of the refugees in Greece is to concentrate all efforts upon their permanent establishment by the provision of employment opportunities. The existing vocational training facilities in Greece are scarce and the opportunities for refugees to participate are, therefore, rare. The branch office for Greece has, in consultation with the governmental authorities concerned, developed a method for combining vocational training with work in existing factories. It is proposed in this project to provide technical training and employment opportunities for 100 refugees in the Athens-Piraeus area, and for 100 refugees in the islands of Syros and Tinos. Because the situation in these two areas differs considerably, the project consists of two separate sections:

#### *Athens area*

2. From preliminary contacts with the directors of several large factories manufacturing textiles, chemical products, etc., it appears that many of them would welcome refugees to train for a maximum period of six months. Those refugees who have worked satisfactorily during that period would obtain permanent employment with the factory in which they were trained after the expiry of the six months.

3. The project to train 100 refugees would require \$10,000, this sum being the difference between the wages of an experienced worker and an apprentice during six months. The employers will pay the employer's part of the social security unemployment and sickness benefit schemes, which after six months will entitle refugees to medical, unemployment and sickness benefits from the Government.

#### *Syros and Tinos*

4. (a) There are few industries on the islands of Syros and Tinos and these are not prepared at present to consider any schemes for vocational training of apprentices. It has, therefore, been necessary to look for alternatives on the two islands and it has been found that training opportunities for forty-five men exist in small trades and crafts. These refugees could receive vocational training in small enterprises, if the wages for a six months' period could be paid on the scale of those paid to refugees under training. This would require a contribution of \$8,000.

(b) In order to provide training facilities for refugee girls and women, it is considered that the most appropriate method would be to take advantage of the Ministry of Social Welfare training school for sewing, embroidery, hairdressing, weaving and rug-making. It is estimated that fifty-five refugees could follow these courses at a total cost of \$3,000.

#### *5. Recapitulation of expenditure*

Athens area : 100 men .....	\$10,000
Syros and Tinos : 45 men .....	8,000
Syros and Tinos : 55 girls .....	3,000

TOTAL \$21,000