



## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Conditions of work in the Council Chamber ( <i>resumed from the 1500th meeting and concluded</i> ) . . . . .	177
Agenda item 14:	
Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund . . . . .	178

*President* : Mr. M. KLUSAK (Czechoslovakia).

*Present* :

Representatives of the following States: Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, France, Gabon, Guatemala, India, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

Observers for the following Member States: Australia, Austria, Brazil, China, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia.

Observers for the following non-member States: Federal Republic of Germany, Holy See, Switzerland.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Health Organization, Universal Postal Union.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

### Conditions of work in the Council Chamber

(*resumed from the 1500th meeting and concluded*)

1. The PRESIDENT informed the Council that, in accordance with the decision that had been taken at the 1500th meeting, he had contacted the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva and informed him of the comments that had been made concerning working conditions in the Council Chamber. The Director-General had instructed the Deputy Director-General, Mr. Palthey, to explain the Secretariat's views on the subject.

2. Mr. PALTHEY (Secretariat) explained that the Council Chamber had been built in about 1935 and was a Chamber of prestige and historic associations. Originally designed to accommodate 100 participants for meetings lasting on the average two hours, it now accommodated between 250 and 300 persons, or even more, and meetings

lasted from three to four hours. Nevertheless, a modernization plan had been drawn up and the Council Chamber was to be transformed fairly soon, not so much with respect to space or layout, as to the furniture, headphones, and, as far as was technically possible, air-conditioning.

3. It must be admitted that the Chamber was defective from the point of view of ventilation and comfort, but it had been chosen for meetings of the Economic and Social Council on account of an old tradition. In July, there was keen competition for its use, and custom required that preference be given to the Council, by assigning to it the Chamber with the greatest prestige. As for the temperature, the summer of 1967 was the hottest for twelve years. Next year, the Council would be able to choose between a number of conference rooms; the one it occupied at present would have been renovated in the meantime and provided with new furniture for the floor area and reconditioned furniture for the tiered seats.

4. The PRESIDENT thanked the Deputy Director-General for his explanation.

5. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) thanked the Deputy Director-General for the assurances he had given. He agreed that the historic nature of the Council Chamber should be preserved, but thought that it should be made more comfortable as delegations expected to enjoy greater comfort at Geneva than in New York, which was not the case. He thought that the relevant remarks and assurances should be mentioned in the report of the Council to the General Assembly.

6. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) said that, coming from a cold climate, he appreciated warmth and abhorred air-conditioning. Moreover, as a lover of tradition, he had no fault to find with the room in which the Council met. He assured Mr. Palthey that he was very satisfied with the present state of affairs.

7. Mr. COSÍO VILLEGAS (Mexico), on the other hand, thought that the situation reflected a certain amount of negligence. He feared that in some quarters the view prevailed that a little comfort might well be sacrificed for the sake of the pleasure of meeting at Geneva. The discomfort could be borne; the unfortunate part was that working conditions suffered as a result.

8. The PRESIDENT assured the Mexican representative that the Administration had given the matter its very careful attention and that the fullest consideration would be paid to all the remarks that had been made.

## AGENDA ITEM 14

**Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/4403; E/L.1179)**

9. Mr. WILLARD (Chairman of the Executive Board, United Nations Children's Fund) introduced the Board's report on its session held in June 1967 (E/4403). The Board's last session had been marked by complete understanding between the delegations and by a feeling of confidence in the future of UNICEF, which was progressing and had managed to achieve a balance between the maintenance of its own personality and the need to co-ordinate its activities with those of other United Nations organizations.

10. After reviewing the evolution of UNICEF since its creation, he recalled that the previous year some concern had been shown, during the Board's deliberations and at the time of consideration of UNICEF's activities by the Economic and Social Council, respecting the delimitation of those activities, which was not considered to be sufficiently clear. The Board had requested the Executive Director of UNICEF to prepare a report which would serve at the 1967 session as a basis for a review of the strategies, criteria and priorities in the use of UNICEF aid. The Board had approved the conclusions of that report (see E/4403, paras. 5-24); although the report contained no suggestions concerning innovations in fundamental policy, it provided a coherent picture of the various elements in the policy pursued. The central recommendation was that the best method of ensuring the attainment of UNICEF aims and the effective utilization of its resources, was the "country approach". That method consisted in granting aid for priority programmes within the scope of the development efforts of the countries concerned, priorities being determined in agreement with each country on the basis of the local situation and on the basis of a strategy for the creation of the necessary permanent national services. Such aid was adapted to the different economic regions of the country.

11. In view of its extremely limited resources, UNICEF must act as a catalytic agent to ensure the execution of initial projects, the success of which might attract additional resources both from within the assisted countries or from other external sources of aid. Consequently, projects receiving UNICEF aid must be considered by the authorities responsible for the allocation of national resources as having sufficient priority to be given adequate support in the way of staff and resources. The best policy was to ensure that projects were integrated in a national development programme, where such existed. It was also possible to adopt the method of counterpart funds, to which UNICEF had remained faithful throughout its history. He was aware that that method had been the subject of a certain amount of criticism on account of the financial burden it placed on the developing countries; for some years now, the Board of UNICEF had been taking account of that problem by applying a "special" assistance policy. It was nevertheless encouraging to note that UNICEF-assisted projects received from the beneficiary countries an average of two and a half times the

amount of UNICEF aid, which was considerable. Another consequence of the limited nature of UNICEF's resources was the need to give preference to projects with a multiplier effect and to concentrate expenditure on fewer and more comprehensive projects.

12. One implication of the country approach was that it was neither possible nor desirable to fix in advance precise criteria for the distribution of aid among the various types of projects and between the different countries. What was essential were the flexibility and pragmatism which, moreover, had always characterized UNICEF policy, aid to countries being justified until such time as it ceased to be necessary for their children and adolescents. The Board had requested the Executive Director to continue to study the situation and to submit figures periodically concerning the distribution of aid among the different countries in terms of the *per capita* gross national product and total child population. The Board had endorsed the conclusion concerning the need to introduce innovations into programmes, explore new training methods and elicit the support of local authorities and voluntary agencies. It had welcomed with satisfaction the efforts made to co-ordinate UNICEF assistance with that of other United Nations organizations. Further, it had approved allocations totalling more than \$50 million—a figure never before attained in the annals of UNICEF—covering 251 projects, including 120 health projects, 35 nutrition projects, 29 social welfare projects and 57 educational projects.

13. Compared with previous years, there had been a marked increase in the proportion of aid to education, which was a relatively new area of action since UNICEF had only begun operations of that nature in 1961; 55,000 teachers had been trained by the end of 1966, and that number would be increased when the execution of the new projects had reached a more advanced stage. The allocations approved for 1967 included more than \$3 million for the purchase of school supplies.

14. In the health sector, the Board had approved the provision of aid for family planning in connexion with maternal and child health services, thus approving the recommendations of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy. That meant that in practice, aid in that field would be supplied in response to government requests, under the national health services, and not as a separate type of assistance. Thus UNICEF would not assume any responsibility for the organization and administration of government programmes in that sector.

15. The majority of UNICEF-assisted projects provided for the in-country training of workers for employment under aid programmes for children; by the end of 1966, equipment and fellowships had been provided for the training of more than 220,000 workers, including auxiliary workers.

16. The Board had examined a number of assessments in several fields, including the UNICEF/WHO assessment of aid to maternal and child health services for the period 1960-1964.

17. With regard to malaria eradication, the Board had noted that the interest of certain countries had begun

to wane, and it had approved the recommendation of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy that the two organizations should use their influence with the Governments of the countries where the campaign was to be continued and that international organizations would be entitled to discontinue their aid to any countries that failed to supply the counterpart funds necessary for the execution of programmes for malaria eradication.

18. With respect to questions of nutrition, he drew attention, in particular, to the Board's decision that UNICEF should pay increased attention in future to the acceptability, at the local level, of food mixtures and to the expansion of outlets, so as to guarantee the economic viability of projects before supplying the necessary equipment for local production.

19. The Board had expressed its conviction that the bulk of UNICEF resources should be utilized for long-range programmes, but it had recognized that it was the duty of UNICEF to act quickly whenever the need for emergency aid arose. In 1966 and 1967, emergency aid totalling \$2.5 million had gone to victims of the drought in India. At its 1967 session, the Board had requested the Executive Director to study ways and means whereby the help of UNICEF could be extended with the co-operation of Red Cross organizations, in emergency situations, to both parts of Viet-Nam. The Board had also taken measures to bring aid to children and mothers who had been victims of the military operations in the Middle East. It had allocated \$200,000 to Jordan and had authorized the Executive Director to expend an additional amount of \$300,000 in that region, if necessary. So far, about \$470,000 had been allocated for emergency aid to Middle Eastern countries, in the form of food, medicaments, blankets and vehicles.

20. In conclusion, he stressed the magnitude of needs and the fact that global aid had not increased on the scale required. In those circumstances, the Board had taken the only possible and reasonable step. It had authorized allocations of up to \$50 million, by drawing on its modest reserves and accepting a calculated risk, for unless receipts rose from their present level of \$40 million to the required \$50 million, allocations might have to be cut down in the following years. Accordingly, on behalf of the Board of UNICEF, he requested the Economic and Social Council to support with the full weight of its authority his appeal for additional funds.

21. Mr. DELISLE (Canada) welcomed the programme approved by the Executive Board of UNICEF for 1968. The Canadian Government had always supported UNICEF's undertakings, for it attached the greatest importance to assistance to children and to the preparation of the young for adult life. The Canadian delegation noted with satisfaction that international co-operation was expanding encouragingly in UNICEF and that Member States had practically unanimously approved the purposes and methods of the Fund. At the national level, UNICEF committees were carrying out humanitarian work in some twenty countries and were largely contributing to the success of assistance programmes. The Canadian Committee annually collected large sums for

UNICEF; in the past year, those funds had exceeded \$1 million. In 1966, the Canadian Government had paid a voluntary contribution of \$1 million to UNICEF and an additional contribution of \$100,000 in memory of the children who had died in the disasters at Aberfan in Wales and Dorian in the Province of Quebec. Canada also provided UNICEF with the services of highly skilled officials.

22. He expressed his delegation's warm gratitude to Mrs. Sinclair, Deputy Executive Director (Programmes), who had served the cause of UNICEF for ten years with untiring devotion.

23. Introducing the draft resolution submitted by the Canadian delegation and seven other delegations on the report of the Executive Board of UNICEF (E/L.1199), he pointed out that the second preambular paragraph recognized UNICEF's correct understanding of its role and objectives of both meeting the immediate needs of children and preparing them to contribute to the economic and social development of their countries. The third paragraph noted that UNICEF was mindful of the need to provide emergency aid to children and mothers. The last paragraph took note of the agreement reached in the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy with regard to family planning. It was understood that assistance in that connexion would be given only to countries which already had well-organized child welfare services and which requested such assistance, and that the programmes must be approved by the competent technical services of WHO.

24. Operative paragraph 2 commended UNICEF for its continued close co-operation with other agencies in the United Nations family which had helped it to carry out its assistance programmes. UNICEF was essentially financed by voluntary contributions, and paragraph 5 therefore urged Governments and private groups to increase their contributions, so that UNICEF might reach its financial target of \$50 million in 1969.

25. The Canadian delegation invited other delegations to support the draft resolution.

*Mr. Zollner (Dahomey), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

26. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that UNICEF's basic task should be to ensure favourable conditions for the all-round development of children. The programmes carried out by the Fund for several years had proved to be effective and represented an essentially humanitarian undertaking.

27. Since the establishment of the Soviet State, infant mortality had declined and was ten times lower. There were 72,000 pediatricians in the country and 75,000 doctors had taken courses in obstetrics. The State had established a network of institutions for children, including polyclinics and advisory centres for babies and small children. It was constantly endeavouring to increase the number of hospitals and maternal and child welfare centres.

28. The Soviet delegation approved of the revision of UNICEF's assistance programmes which, in its opinion,

had not always been in conformity with the established objectives. It considered that UNICEF should not concern itself mainly with adolescents, for education did not fall within its competence. It should concentrate primarily on children under 15, especially the 1-6 year-old age-group, the most critical period in a child's life. Moreover, it seemed to be contrary to UNICEF's fundamental objectives to deal with family planning, which was the direct concern of families and Governments. The Soviet delegation would not vote for the preambular paragraph which dealt with that question.

29. She was also concerned about the high proportion of administrative expenses in the UNICEF budget and considered that part of the funds thus used should be allocated directly to assistance programmes for children.

30. An analysis of the breakdown of funds showed that the unused balance was higher for Africa than for other regions; she would like to know the reasons for that situation. The countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America should be able to use the assistance given them by UNICEF without matching contributions. The Executive Board should also investigate the causes of delays in carrying out programmes in those regions. Further, UNICEF should help developing countries to acquire experience in assistance to children by promoting the organization of seminars and visits from experts. She observed that UNICEF had so far failed to make full use of the experience of Soviet institutions.

31. She considered it inadmissible for UNICEF to provide direct or indirect assistance to those who were perpetrating aggression. Its aid should go to children who were victims of aggression, whether in Viet-Nam or in the Middle East, where assistance could be directly provided by the UNICEF offices in Cairo and Beirut and through the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Soviet delegation approved of the decision of the Executive Board at its most recent session to give emergency aid amounting to \$1 million for children who were victims of military operations. She asked the Chairman of the Executive Board to give details of the application of that decision.

32. With regard to the draft resolution, for reasons she had already given, her delegation could not vote for the fifth preambular paragraph or for the first part of operative paragraph 3, which did not correspond to the facts.

33. Mr. KRISHNAN (India) said he was pleased to note that UNICEF's programmes were constantly developing in scope and depth. His country was grateful to UNICEF for the generous support it had received, and particularly for the emergency aid sent to regions struck by drought. He thanked the national committees of UNICEF, especially the Canadian Committee, which had provided India with vital equipment.

34. Nevertheless, there was great disparity in the breakdown of allocations by regions, particularly to the detriment of India, whose total amount of assistance per inhabitant was lower than anywhere else. The Indian Government was fully aware that UNICEF had very limited resources. It had therefore decided to increase its

contribution to 6 million rupees in 1969, representing an increase of 50 per cent over its contribution in 1966. India would pay an additional contribution of 500,000 rupees in 1967.

35. The Indian Government welcomed UNICEF's increasingly active role in family planning matters. The decision taken at the most recent session of the Executive Board on the basis of the recommendations of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy was an important step in that direction.

36. The Indian delegation was glad to be one of the sponsors of the draft resolution and hoped that that text would be adopted unanimously.

37. Mr. SQUIRE (United States of America) pointed out that the Council's debates had shown that body's full awareness of the fact that UNICEF was a humanitarian organization, having the moral obligation of helping unfortunate children. Political fluctuations in no way detracted from that obligation; on the contrary, they only accentuated its responsibility. Time was an essential factor in that regard, and it should be borne in mind that the programmes undertaken were not intended only to benefit children in the immediate future, but also to prepare them to contribute more fully and more usefully to the economic and social development of their countries. Indeed, the national development of a country largely depended on the proper growth and development of its youth; it was also true that the level of a country's development determined the conditions in which children were born, grew up and became adults.

38. The humanitarian nature of UNICEF's work explained the voluntary support it received, especially from private individuals and groups, whose contribution now accounted for 20 per cent of its total annual income. The Executive Board had approved the Executive Director's recommendation for an income goal of \$50 million. That bold decision—taking the calculated risk that future income would be sufficient to maintain the 1967 level of allocations—was due to the fact that the needs of children in the developing countries were so great that countries should do everything in their power to meet those needs as rapidly as possible. For example, he pointed out that 700 million children under the age of fifteen were living in countries where the national income per head was under \$500 and that 500 million children were living in countries where that income was under \$100.

39. He was glad that many countries had expressed their intention to increase their contributions to UNICEF, and hoped that the United States Government would soon be called on to fulfil its announced intentions, subject to Congressional approval, to make a larger contribution to UNICEF's expenses in the measure that other countries increased their contributions.

40. The programme approved by the UNICEF Executive Board showed that that body attached importance to educational and vocational training programmes, to which one-third of the available resources was already being assigned. The United States was convinced of the importance of education and training in development and supported the Board's decision. As the Secretary-

General had pointed out in his report on the development and utilization of human resources in developing countries (E/4353 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1), it was essential for educational programmes to be realistic and to take the specific needs of each country into account. In many cases, programmes should be improved to attain the desired ends. In the United States, educational programmes were constantly being adjusted to changing conditions. Accordingly, all the developed countries should associate themselves with the efforts of the developing countries to raise the level of education given to their children and to ensure closer links between education and life. It was alarming to note that over 50 per cent of teachers in the developing countries had received no professional training and that the acute shortage of textbooks was a serious obstacle to improvement of the quality of education. The developing countries were also confronted with the problem of premature school leaving, which aggravated the problem of illiteracy.

41. He noted with satisfaction the effort jointly undertaken by UNICEF and UNESCO to evaluate in six countries the effects of educational projects carried out with UNICEF aid. That evaluation would enable the Executive Board to review its programme at its meeting in 1968 on the basis of additional data for rational planning.

42. He was glad that UNICEF had undertaken far-reaching programmes with regard to the health and welfare of mothers and children. Nevertheless, he regretted that the allocations for nutrition had remained at the 1966 level and were even slightly lower than the average for 1961-1965. In view of the importance of nutrition in improving health and well-being, it was essential to give it more attention in future programmes. The protein shortage from which children were suffering in many developing countries should be remedied. As the United States representative had said at the 420th meeting of the Economic Committee, the United States had spent \$24 million in 1967 on research and development of protein-rich foods, and it proposed in 1968 to increase the quantity of protein-rich foods which it distributed by 100 per cent and the funds needed for other programmes in that sphere by 50 per cent.

43. The United States Government was glad that the Board had adopted the recommendation of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy that UNICEF should give assistance in family planning to Governments at their request, as an integral part of material and child welfare programmes. In that connexion, the President of the United States had declared in his State-of-the-Union message that mankind must meet the challenge of the race between food supplies and population increases. He had proposed that joint measures should be taken to produce more foodstuffs and to urge the developing countries which were most affected voluntarily to undertake the execution of family planning programmes. He therefore hoped that the countries which were giving priority to family planning would include such programmes in their requests for assistance in maternal and child welfare.

44. He stressed the importance of UNICEF's contribution to the emancipation of women, for many UNICEF

projects depended on the understanding and co-operation of mothers. In addition, most child welfare programmes were carried out by women.

45. The United States delegation welcomed the Chilean Government's invitation to the UNICEF Executive Board to hold its 1969 session at Santiago. That session would enable members of the Board to acquire better understanding of the needs of children in Latin America. That point was vitally important, since in that part of the world, as in others, it was inadmissible that children should remain hungry in body and mind and should be deprived of medical care and education.

46. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) said that his Government appreciated the "country approach" used by UNICEF in its development role. Since conditions and requirements differed considerably from one country to another, it was better not to try to establish global priorities. In view of its limited resources, UNICEF should not undertake over-ambitious projects in only a small number of countries; it should always retain a certain freedom of action so that it could meet new requirements and be in a position to prepare pilot projects, which, if successful, must be financed by some other source so that UNICEF could move on to where the need was greatest.

47. He was pleased with the efforts made by UNICEF to co-ordinate its activities with those of other bodies and to provide the UNDP Resident Representatives with information on its activities. He agreed with the Soviet representative that teaching came within the purview of UNESCO; and that the final part of the second preambular paragraph went too wide; the needs of children were almost unlimited and UNICEF would have difficulty in obtaining sufficient contributions if its programme went outside its scope.

48. It was satisfactory that UNICEF was making steady progress in the family planning field and that there was general agreement in the Executive Board on the basis of close co-operation with WHO. He was therefore in favour of the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.

49. He had noted with satisfaction the emergency measures taken by UNICEF on behalf of victims of the Middle East crisis.

50. He hoped that the report of the Executive Board of UNICEF would be distributed sufficiently in advance so as to enable the Economic and Social Council to discuss it thoroughly. The United Kingdom delegation would vote for the draft resolution if slight amendments were made to the second preambular paragraph, but that must not be taken to indicate that the United Kingdom could respond to the appeal for higher contributions at the present time.

51. Mr. AZIMI (Iran) said that the level of development in many of the developing countries was so low that neither the family, the community nor the State could protect children; it was therefore essential that international aid should subsidize the needs of millions of

children. Bearing in mind the differing needs of each country, UNICEF aid with respect to health, nutrition and education should be adapted to each specific case and administered in close collaboration with the country concerned. Special importance should also be given to bilateral and multilateral aid in view of the limited resources of UNICEF. UNICEF should collaborate in the execution of pilot projects with national committees, Governments and non-governmental technical organizations, so as to find suitable solutions to the problems due to children and to carry out research work. It was also essential that UNICEF should co-ordinate its action with that of other United Nations bodies, to avoid duplication.

52. It was encouraging to learn that 51.4 per cent of the allocations made under the UNICEF programme were being devoted to health and to basic health services in particular. Despite the tremendous efforts made, however, there were still vast regions not yet benefiting from adequate health services. Much therefore remained to be done in that respect. He was glad to note the positive results of the malaria eradication campaign, but 619 million human beings were still living in malaria-infested regions. The measures so far taken to combat tuberculosis were encouraging. The same applied to yaws and trachoma, but greater efforts should be made to control leprosy. He noted with satisfaction that in 1967 UNICEF had devoted 12.8 per cent of its allocations to improving the nutrition of mothers and children. Effort had been devoted primarily to the development of protein-rich foods. UNICEF aid to the developing countries in respect of education and vocational training, granted in close co-operation with other United Nations bodies, had rendered great services. He hoped that in future the assistance programmes would have larger means at their disposal so that UNICEF could carry out its humanitarian task even more successfully. He was convinced that the teaching, hygiene and development services had a considerable part to play in rural regions. In Iran, their efforts had given very encouraging results. Iran had benefited from the very efficient help of UNICEF, particularly as regards health, nutrition, education, malaria eradication, the training of social assistants and vocational training. He hoped that UNICEF would continue its aid in future with similar success so that the young could play an increasing and ever more useful part in the social and economic development of their countries.

53. Mr. BILLNER (Sweden) said his country attached great importance to UNICEF and had confidence in its Executive Director. He was glad that the Executive Board had approved at its last session a policy with regard to family planning. He thanked Mr. Willard for having agreed to remain for a further year as Chairman of the Executive Board, and Mrs. Sinclair for all the efforts she had made as Deputy Executive Director (Programmes). His delegation was happy to be included among the co-sponsors of the draft resolution.

54. Mr. GREGH (France) regretted that the report of the Executive Board of UNICEF had not been circulated sufficiently in advance.

55. With respect to the discussions that had taken place at the Executive Board's meetings in June 1967, he said that the progress report presented by the Executive Director was an invaluable guide; UNICEF was working on behalf of the "whole child", both as an unformed, fragile individual and as an element of the society whose future he foreshadowed. Aid to children therefore formed part of a much wider framework, namely that of the development of the family and society.

56. It was clearly impossible for UNICEF to establish general orders of priority in subjects such as health, education, nutrition, etc. It was necessary that countries should themselves define the orders of priority for their national development, and that UNICEF should take account of them in preparing its assistance programmes. Even if a technical shift occurred in the centre of gravity of international action, the conditions peculiar to certain countries might impose a different attitude. For instance, despite the Executive Board's decision not to undertake new malaria-control programmes, it was accepted that if national health centres undertook action against that disease, UNICEF might grant them assistance. So far as family planning was concerned, only the Governments concerned could indicate how much UNICEF aid they needed. That was why the draft resolution noted that the conclusions of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy were to be used as guidelines for the establishment, at the request of certain countries, of UNICEF assistance programmes for family planning.

57. It was essential that UNICEF should not scatter its resources but should link its programmes with the national development plans and assistance programmes of other international bodies. It was gratifying to note that UNICEF had successfully dealt with questions of co-ordination. With regard to the programme of aid to schooling, undertaken in conjunction with UNESCO, he hoped that the assessment report to be submitted to the Board in 1968 would be less vague than in previous years. UNICEF should continue to devote a large share of its resources to emergency aid programmes. The Executive Board had invited the Executive Director, at the request of France, to study ways of increasing UNICEF aid to North Viet-Nam and South Viet-Nam with the help of the Red Cross. The Economic and Social Council should therefore derive satisfaction from the fact that UNICEF was furthering, in a humanitarian sense, United Nations action in areas torn by strife.

58. The purpose of the draft resolution was to draw the attention of Governments to the financial target of \$50 million which UNICEF had set itself so that it might carry out its task more effectively. France had increased its contribution to UNICEF from \$1,100,000 to \$1,409,000 in 1967. He hoped that the Council would adopt the draft resolution.

59. Mr. JACHEK (Czechoslovakia) said his country appreciated the humanitarian work UNICEF was doing on behalf of millions of children who were suffering as a result of the colonial and racist oppression that had been rife in certain countries and from the ravages of war. UNICEF had not the financial resources, however, to meet all requirements.



60. The report of the Executive Board attached great importance to planning in relation to children and young people within the framework of national development. The results of the regional conferences held in Latin America and Asia in that respect were encouraging. The Czechoslovak delegation was pleased with the statement made by the Executive Director, who had spoken of intensifying the work of the Fund with regard to planning.

61. He appreciated the orientation of the Fund's activities and its efforts to increase its collaboration with other United Nations bodies at the international and regional levels. He also appreciated the Fund's policy of concerning itself with the physical and intellectual development of children and of considering them as whole beings.

62. The Czechoslovak delegation approved the draft resolution but considered that the fifth preambular paragraph and the third operative paragraph should be amended so that the draft resolution could be adopted by all members of the Council.

63. In conclusion, he stated that his country was willing to tighten its links with UNICEF and to examine the possibility of co-operating on a more solid basis so as to enable UNICEF to benefit from Czechoslovak experience if it wished.

64. Mr. COX (Sierra Leone) said that UNICEF should pursue its collaboration with other United Nations bodies. Aid to children and to mothers should remain its basic objective. The Fund should also continue its efforts with regard to nutrition and malaria control. He noted with satisfaction that UNICEF had been able to tackle the critical situations existing in Viet-Nam and the Middle East. His delegation would vote for the draft resolution.

65. Mr. WILLARD (Chairman of the Executive Board, United Nations Children's Fund) explained that the report had been distributed so late in all the working languages because the Executive Board's session had been held in June, which had left the Secretariat little time for translation.

66. As far as assistance for the Middle East was concerned, the Executive Board had, at its meeting of 13 June 1967, unanimously adopted a Yugoslav proposal that immediate assistance should be provided for children who had suffered as a result of the military operations in that area. On 16 June, the Board had been informed that medical equipment and blankets for infants had already been dispatched to the Beirut centre. In addition, allocations of \$200,000 for Jordan and \$60,000 for Syria and the United Arab Republic had been recommended, and most of the aid had already been sent. An additional allocation of \$152,000 had since been recommended in response to a request from Israel for the dispatch of blankets for children and mothers of the occupied areas in the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula. Food rations were being supplied by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

67. UNICEF had been providing assistance for the Republic of Viet-Nam for many years. At its last session, the Executive Board had adopted a French proposal for

extending such emergency aid to cover both parts of Viet-Nam. The Executive Director of UNICEF was endeavouring to establish contact with the Government concerned through the Red Cross organizations.

68. At its next session, the Executive Board would take account of the USSR and United States representatives' remarks on the need to balance assistance programmes. The apportionment of allocations was difficult to balance by region, since it was based mainly on various requests made by Governments.

69. In reply to a remark by the USSR representative, he said that while it was undoubtedly within UNICEF's scope of activity to deal with both children and youth, it was sometimes difficult to determine at what age such assistance should come to an end. Many countries attached great importance to pre-vocational training. After prolonged consideration of the question, UNICEF had decided to provide educational assistance; many countries regarded the insufficiency of international aid as a particularly serious problem, and welcomed increased UNICEF assistance in the matter. Co-operation with UNESCO had been most satisfactory.

70. With regard to family planning, the Executive Board's official position was that the recommendations of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy constituted guidelines for possible assistance. It was, of course, for Governments to decide whether they wished to receive such assistance, which, however, could not readily be omitted from a programme for national health services of which it might form part. It was not a question of undertaking scientific research, which fell within the purview of WHO. That Organization would have to approve assistance projects for family planning.

71. Lastly, in the matter of administrative expenditure, the Executive Board endeavoured to maintain a steady ratio between that item and the total outlay on programmes, but that had not always been feasible. UNICEF provided assistance for 116 countries and had set up the commensurate administrative services. It was difficult to economize by restricting the number of projects. The situation would improve substantially if the financial target of \$50 million could be attained in 1969. In that case, the share of administrative expenses would be considerably reduced.

72. In conclusion, he assured the members of the Council that he would inform the Executive Board of their constructive suggestions and observations.

73. Mr. LAVALLE VALDEZ (Guatemala) thanked Mr. Willard for presenting the report by the Executive Board of UNICEF and took that opportunity to express his delegation's gratitude to the Fund for the immense labour it was accomplishing. UNICEF was giving Guatemala efficient and highly-appreciated collaboration in public health and education.

74. He proposed that the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution should be amended to read:

“ *Noting* that the Board has accepted that the conclusions of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on

Health Policy be used as guidelines for the establishment of the Fund's assistance programmes to family planning at the request of certain countries whose national health services cover family planning".

75. Mr. COX (Sierra Leone) thought that the paragraph in question should begin with the words: "*Noting with satisfaction*".

76. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) said that the manner in third preambular paragraph was drafted gave the impression that a basic change had occurred in the order of priorities. He proposed that the text should be changed to read:

"*Noting with approval* that UNICEF continues to provide emergency aid to children and mothers in situations of urgent need, while placing increasing emphasis on long-term programmes".

77. Mr. SQUIRE (United States of America) proposed that in operative paragraph 3 the words "*with approval*" should be inserted after the word "*Notes*". He was also in favour of the suggestion made by the representative of Sierra Leone.

78. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that attention had been drawn to a 20 per cent increase of administrative expenses, that some programmes called for revision and that the Chairman of the Executive Board had himself admitted certain shortcomings. She therefore asked the United States delegation not to insist on the inclusion of specific terms of approval.

79. Mr. SQUIRE (United States of America) said that he acceded to the Soviet representative's request, but hoped that the record of the meeting would show that in the United States delegation's view the Executive Board merited the approval it had been intended to express.

80. Mr. COX (Sierra Leone) said that, in order to simplify the Council's work, he would not press his amendment.

81. Mr. WILLARD (Chairman of the Executive Board, United Nations Children's Fund) recalled in connexion with the third preambular paragraph that the task of UNICEF had at the outset consisted solely of the provision of emergency aid necessitated by the situation which the war in Europe had created. When that task had been completed, UNICEF had turned its attention to giving aid to children in developing countries; that was done mainly under long-term programmes, but UNICEF was also prepared to meet emergencies, if the need arose. The amendment proposed by the Philippine representative took account of that development in a satisfactory manner, but he desired to recall that the activities of UNICEF were primarily carried out in the form of long-term programmes.

82. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had two amendments before it, the Guatemalan amendment to the fifth preambular paragraph and the Philippine amendment to the third preambular paragraph. He asked whether the sponsors accepted those amendments.

83. Mr. DELISLE (Canada) thought that he could accept the two amendments on behalf of the sponsors.

84. Mr. SQUIRE (United States of America) said that he accepted the Philippine amendment. The Guatemalan amendment seemed to him to imply that only those countries whose national health services covered family planning could ask for UNICEF assistance in the matter, but that those which had not yet introduced a family planning programme, but were contemplating one, could not ask for such assistance; that would mean that no new programme could be undertaken.

85. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) said that his country's position on family planning was entirely neutral. He asked the Chairman of the Executive Board of UNICEF to explain what the Fund's attitude would be if a country decided to incorporate a family planning programme in a social rather than a public health programme, the latter being the only area in which the Fund could intervene in accordance with the practice so far adopted.

86. Mr. WILLARD (Chairman of the Executive Board, United Nations Children's Fund), replying to the Libyan representative, said that, as was explicitly stated in paragraph 44 of the report of the Executive Board, UNICEF assistance would form part of the health services of the country requesting it and would not constitute a separate category of assistance.

87. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden) thought that if the words "national health services" in the Guatemalan amendment were replaced by the words "national health policies" all cases would be covered, whether or not family planning was included in the national health services.

88. Mr. LAVALLE VALDEZ (Guatemala) pointed out that his had been merely a drafting amendment intended to prevent the expression used in the original text of the draft resolution, "family planning as part of a country's health services", from being interpreted to mean that only countries already practising family planning could ask for UNICEF assistance. It would in fact be for the country making the request to decide whether to incorporate family planning in one service or another, without UNICEF having to assume any responsibility. His amendment was not to be considered as a statement of Guatemala's position on family planning. He accepted the amendment proposed by the Swedish representative.

89. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) thanked the Swedish representative for his very useful amendment. He proposed, however, that the words "health policies" should be replaced by the words "social policies", a term which was wide enough to cover family planning.

90. Mr. SQUIRE (United States of America) said that he might approve the Guatemalan amendment, if that country's representative and the sponsors of the draft resolution accepted the addition of the words "or which wish to initiate family planning programmes" after the words "whose national health services cover family planning".



91. Mr. LAVALLE VALDEZ (Guatemala) accepted that suggestion.

92. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden) thought that the best formula would be to take up the Libyan idea, but to enlarge its scope still further by replacing the words "national social policies" by the words "national policies".

93. Mr. GREGH (France) said that he appreciated the desire for perfection animating the preceding speakers, but thought that the Guatemalan amendment and the United States sub-amendment fully met all the points that had been raised and were perfectly acceptable. He could not, however, approve the Libyan and Swedish amendments, which seemed to him to go beyond the competence of UNICEF as defined in the passage of the report quoted by the Chairman of the Executive Board and underlying the text before the Council.

94. The PRESIDENT said that if the sponsors of the draft resolution did not object, the Philippine amendment to the third preambular paragraph and the Guatemalan amendment to the fifth preambular paragraph, as modified by the United States sub-amendment, would be made in the initial text.

*It was so decided.*

*The draft resolution (E/L.1179), as amended, was adopted.*

95. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that she had not opposed the adoption of the draft resolution, but requested that the reservations she had expressed should be included in the record of the meeting.

96. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) noted that the Chairman of the Executive Board had explained that UNICEF would deal with family planning as part of the health services. He hoped, however, that UNICEF would find it possible not to persevere in a rigid attitude, since some countries might prefer to incorporate family planning in services other than health services.

97. Mr. WILLARD (Chairman of the Executive Board, United Nations Children's Fund) said that in accordance with practice, requests received by UNICEF must be an integral part of the health services of countries requesting assistance and UNICEF must provide its assistance through the health services. That point had given rise to a great deal of discussion, and many different views had been expressed on the subject, but UNICEF policy and practice had brought about the current situation of fact.

The meeting rose at 7.10 p.m.