

## INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

## REPORT OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Rapporteur: Mr. Charles MALIK (Lebanon)

1. The General Assembly, on 23 September 1947, referred to the Third Committee for consideration and report the item of its agenda relating to the International Children's Emergency Fund.
2. In accordance with section 9 of resolution 57 (I) adopted by the General Assembly on 11 December 1946, the report on the activities of the International Children's Emergency Fund presented to the Economic and Social Council (document E/590) was transmitted to the General Assembly by the Acting Chairman of the Council.
3. At its sixty-seventh meeting, on 22 October 1947, the Third Committee considered this report and the resolutions concerning the Fund adopted by the Council at its fourth and fifth sessions. The Committee heard with satisfaction that the Fund was actually in operation and that its resources were now approximately \$30,000,000 of which all but one and a half million dollars had been allocated. Agreements between the Fund and twelve European countries had been, or were in the process of being, signed.
4. It was pointed out in the discussion that although the first transfer of funds to the ICEF had taken place only eight weeks ago, 10,000 tons of supplies would have been shipped from United States and Canadian ports to needy children in Europe by the end of October. Procurement to date and in process was for approximately 30,000 tons of dried milk, 4,000 tons of lard and margarine and 1,400 tons of dried fish. These supplies would assist Governments, for a six months period, in providing a daily supplementary meal or school luncheon to some 3,500,000 children and nursing and expectant mothers in twelve European countries by the end of December. The Fund's share, at a cost of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cents per meal, provided about 240 calories of milk, fat and cocoa, and about 50 to 60 calories of canned meats, fish and cod liver oil. All the countries were using what indigenous food they could spare for child feeding, but none of them had an adequate supply of the special protective foods - especially milk, fats and meats - needed for children and  
/nursing

nursing and expectant mothers.

In addition to the European programme of the Fund, \$3,500,000 had been set aside for China and a further \$1,500,000 tentatively allocated from future resources for other countries of the Far East.

Although the provision of special protective foods constituted the basic programme of the Fund, medical and technical aid would also be supplied. Tuberculosis was rampant among children and adolescents. In co-operation with the World Health Organization and other interested organizations, the Fund would assist Governments in wholesale vaccination campaigns to prevent tuberculosis and in programmes to stamp out venereal disease among children.

Although some of the seventy million people under eighteen years of age in Europe today were self-supporting, only one child in eleven could be expected to receive the assistance it needed. The food outlook for 1947-48 was more critical than at any time since the war. Government contributions were urgently required by the Fund within the next month or two to meet this need and to enable the Fund to avail itself of the full United States Government authorization of a \$40,000,000 contribution on a 57-43 percent matching basis. Thus far only eight\* of the United Nations Members had made or pledged contributions, and of these two were receiving countries. Various representatives pointed out how woefully inadequate the present resources of the Fund were and urged that further contributions be made in order that the Fund might be enabled more fully to meet the desperate need.

The following resolution, which was proposed by the representative of France and approved unanimously by the Third Committee, is now submitted to the General Assembly for adoption:

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of the reports of the Economic and Social Council and of the Executive Board of the International Children's Emergency Fund:

EXPRESSES its satisfaction with the concrete work already accomplished by the Fund;

APPROVES the present report;

DRAWS the attention of the States Members to the significance of the International Children's Emergency Fund and to the need for supplying it immediately with funds to enable it to carry on its activities;

ASSOCIATES itself with the United Nations Appeal for Children and recommends the people of all countries to co-operate toward the success of this appeal.

-----

\* Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, France, Luxembourg, Norway, United States of America. In addition, the representative of Denmark announced at the Third Committee meeting that her Government was prepared to contribute to the Fund anti-tubercular vaccines for children.