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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND
WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mihai MAGHERU (Romania)

1. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 21 of resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and of paragraph 12 of resolution 1018 (XI) of 28 February 1957, the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East submitted to the General Assembly his report for the year ending 30 June 1957.^{1/}
2. On 20 September 1957, the General Assembly decided to include the item in the agenda of its twelfth session, and referred it to the Special Political Committee.
3. Also before the Special Political Committee was a special report of the Advisory Commission of UNRWA dated 14 November 1957 (A/3735), transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Director of the Agency.
4. The Special Political Committee considered the question at its 64th to 72nd meetings held between 18 and 28 November 1957, and at its 75th through 79th meetings held between 3 and 6 December.
5. At the 64th meeting held on 18 November, the Chairman, with the agreement of the Committee, invited the Director of the Agency to take a seat at the Committee table. At the same meeting, the Director made a statement (A/SPC/20/Rev.1). He made a further statement on 6 December (A/SPC/23).

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Session, Suppl. No. 14 (A/3686 and Corr.1).

6. At the 68th meeting held on 27 November, the Chairman announced that he had received a letter from the Permanent Representative of Iraq (A/SPC/21) requesting a hearing by the Committee for Dr. Izzat Tannous, Director of the Palestine Arab Refugee Offices in New York and Beirut, Lebanon. With the agreement of the Committee, Dr. Tannous made a statement at the 72nd meeting held on 28 November.
7. At the 76th meeting held on 4 December, the representative of the United States of America introduced a joint draft resolution (A/SPC/L.21) sponsored by the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. A revision of this draft resolution (A/SPC/L.21/Rev.1) was submitted at the 78th meeting on 6 December.
8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the revised five-Power draft resolution as a whole by 49 votes to none, with 21 abstentions.
9. The Special Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

Report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and
Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, 393 (V) of 2 December 1950, 513 (VI) of 26 January 1952, 614 (VII) of 6 November 1952, 720 (VIII) of 27 November 1953, 818 (IX) of 4 December 1954, 916 (X) of 3 December 1955 and 1018 (XI) of 28 February 1957.

Noting the annual report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East^{1/} and the report of the Advisory Commission of the Agency,^{2/}

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Session, Supplement No. 14 (A/3686 and Corr.1).

2/ A/3735.

Having reviewed the budgets for relief and rehabilitation prepared by the Director of the Agency, and having noted the comment of the Advisory Commission to the effect that they are minimal,

Noting with grave concern that contributions to the budgets are not yet sufficient, that the financial situation of the Agency is serious, and that cuts already have had to be made in the rehabilitation programme,

Noting that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III), has not been effected, that no substantial progress has been made in the programme endorsed in paragraph 2 of resolution 513 (VI) for the reintegration of refugees and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of serious concern,

Noting that the host Governments have expressed the wish that the Agency continue to carry out its mandate in their respective countries or territories and have expressed their wish to co-operate fully with the Agency and to extend to it every appropriate assistance in carrying out its functions, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the terms of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the contents of paragraph 17 of resolution 302 (IV) and the terms of the agreements with the host Governments.

1. Draws the attention of Governments to the critical financial position of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and urges them to consider to what extent they can contribute or increase their contributions in order that the Agency may carry out its budgeted relief and rehabilitation programmes and that cuts in services may be avoided;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of the critical financial position of the Agency, to make, as a matter of urgent concern, special efforts to secure the additional financial assistance needed to meet the Agency's budgets and to provide adequate working capital;

3. Directs the Agency to pursue its programme for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees, bearing in mind the response to paragraphs 1 and 2 above;

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4. Requests the host Governments to co-operate fully with the Agency and with its personnel and to extend to the Agency every appropriate assistance in carrying out its functions;
5. Requests the Governments of the area, without prejudice to paragraph 11 of the General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, in co-operation with the Director of the Agency, to plan and carry out projects capable of supporting substantial numbers of refugees;
6. Requests the Agency to continue its consultations with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine in the best interests of their respective tasks, with particular reference to paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III);
7. Expresses its thanks to the Director and the staff of the Agency for their continued faithful efforts to carry out the mandate of the Agency and to the specialized agencies and the many private organizations for their valuable and continuing work in assisting the refugees;
8. Requests the Director of the Agency to continue to submit the reports referred to in paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 1018 (XI) of 28 February 1957.
