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

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Massimo CASTALDO (Italy)

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The following item was included in the provisional agenda of the twenty-eighth session:

"United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East:

- (a) Report of the Commissioner-General;
- (b) Report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
- (c) Report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine;
- (d) Reports of the Secretary-General."

2. At its 206th and 207th meetings, on 20 September 1973, the General Committee decided to recommend the inclusion of the item in the agenda and its allocation to the Special Political Committee for consideration and report. At its 2123rd plenary meeting, on 21 September, the General Assembly approved the recommendation of the General Committee.

3. The Special Political Committee considered the item at its 877th to 886th meetings, between 5 and 14 November, and at its 889th and 891st meetings on 16 and 20 November. The Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA for the year ending 30 June 1973; 1/
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 2963 C (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 (A/9155);
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 2963 D (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 (A/9156);
- (d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2963 A (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 (A/9187);
- (e) Report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2964 (XXVII) (A/9231).

4. The Special Political Committee began its consideration of the item on 5 November, hearing statements by the Commissioner-General of UNRWA, who introduced

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/9013).

his report, and by the representative of Norway, Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA, who introduced the report of the Working Group.

5. In a letter dated 25 October 1973 (A/SPC/163) addressed to the Chairman of the Special Political Committee, the representatives of Afghanistan, Indonesia, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia requested that the Palestine Arab delegation be heard by the Committee during its consideration of the report of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA (item 43). In a letter dated 9 November 1973 (A/SPC/164), the representatives of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Barbados, Bulgaria, Burundi, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, the Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia referred to the resolution adopted by the Fourth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at the meeting at Algiers in September 1973 2/ and requested that "the delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization - the legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine, the principal party to the Palestine question - be heard by ... the Committee during its deliberation on item 43".

6. With regard to these requests, the Committee decided at its 878th and 882nd meetings, on 6 and 12 November, to authorize, in accordance with the practice established at its previous sessions, the persons constituting the said delegations to address the Committee without such authorization implying recognition of the organization or delegation in question. Pursuant to this decision, the Committee heard statements on behalf of those delegations during the debate.

7. In the course of its consideration of the question, the Committee received six draft resolutions and several amendments thereto. All the amendments were eventually withdrawn. The texts of the six draft resolutions, as put to the vote at the 889th and 891st meetings, on 16 and 20 November, and adopted, appear in paragraph 36.

2/ A/9330, p. 34.

II. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.273

8. At the 880th meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Sweden introduced a draft resolution on humanitarian assistance to displaced persons (A/SPC/L.273) sponsored by Austria, Denmark, Finland, Ghana, Greece, India, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Nigeria and Sweden. Subsequently Belgium, Canada, Germany (Federal Republic of), Malaysia, the Netherlands, Trinidad and Tobago and Yugoslavia also joined as sponsors.

9. At the 889th meeting, on 16 November, the draft resolution was put to the vote. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.273 was adopted by 117 votes to none (see paragraph 36 below, draft resolution I A).

B. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.274

10. At the 889th meeting, on 16 November, the representative of the United States of America introduced a draft resolution (A/SPC/L.274) which had been submitted by his delegation on 8 November.

11. At the 882nd meeting, on 12 November, the representative of Colombia introduced an amendment (A/SPC/L.275) to the draft resolution which would add to its operative part a new paragraph reading as follows:

"7. Decides that 5 per cent of the annual budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East should be financed from the regular budget of the United Nations and that the Secretary-General, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, should try to achieve the reductions necessary for that purpose in the operating costs of the United Nations in the biennium 1974-1975 and thereafter."

12. On 12 November the Secretary-General, in accordance with rule 155 of the rules of procedure, submitted to the Committee a statement (A/SPC/L.280) on the administrative and financial implications of this amendment.

13. At the 889th meeting, the representative of Colombia withdrew his delegation's amendment.

14. At the 883rd meeting, on 12 November, the representative of Saudi Arabia submitted an amendment (A/SPC/L.278) to the draft resolution which would add to its operative part a new paragraph reading as follows:

"Calls upon the United States of America, which has recently involved itself very actively to find a lasting solution to the problem of the Middle East, to double its annual contribution to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, considering that in a single day a decision was taken by the United States of America to send military aid to Israel amounting to \$2 billion."

15. At the 884th meeting, on 13 November, the representative of Saudi Arabia submitted a revised amendment (A/SPC/L.278/Rev.1) reading as follows:

"Appeals in particular to the United States of America, which has recently involved itself very actively to find a lasting solution to the problem of the Middle East, to double or increase substantially its annual contribution to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, considering that in a single day a decision was taken by the United States of America to send military aid to Israel amounting to over \$2 billion."

16. At the 889th meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia submitted a further revision of his amendment (A/SPC/L.278/Rev.2) reading as follows:

"Appeals in particular to the United States of America, which has recently involved itself very actively to find a lasting solution to the problem of the Middle East, to consider doubling or increasing its annual contribution to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East."

17. At the same meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia withdrew his amendment in document A/SPC/L.278/Rev.2.

18. Also at the 883rd meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia submitted a second amendment (A/SPC/L.279) to the draft resolution which would add to its operative part a new paragraph reading:

"Appeals to the Federal Republic of Germany to double its annual contribution to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, considering its deep interest in the Middle East by having extended massive financial aid to Israel for many years."

19. At the 884th meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia submitted a revised amendment (A/SPC/L.279/Rev.1) reading as follows:

"Also appeals to the Federal Republic of Germany to double or increase substantially its annual contribution to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, considering its deep interest in the Middle East by having extended massive financial aid to Israel for many years."

20. At the 889th meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia submitted a further revision of his amendment (A/SPC/L.279/Rev.2) reading as follows:

"Also appeals to the Federal Republic of Germany to consider doubling or increasing its annual contribution to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East."

21. At the same meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia withdrew his amendment in document A/SPC/L.279/Rev.2.

22. Also at the 889th meeting, the representative of India introduced an amendment (A/SPC/L.289) to draft resolution A/SPC/L.274. Under the amendment the words "and especially those with \$1,500 or more per capita income" would be added after the words "Calls upon all Governments" in operative paragraph 6.

23. At the 891st meeting, on 20 November, the representative of India withdrew his amendment.

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24. At the same meeting, draft resolution A/SPC/L.274 was put to the vote. The draft resolution was adopted by 112 votes to none, with 1 abstention (see paragraph 36 below, draft resolution I B).

C. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.276/Rev.1

25. At the 885th meeting, on 13 November, the representative of Pakistan introduced a draft resolution (A/SPC/L.276) sponsored by Afghanistan, Chad, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Pakistan, Senegal, Somalia and Yugoslavia. Subsequently Dahomey and Guyana also joined as sponsors. He revised the text of the draft resolution (A/SPC/L.276/Rev.1) by deleting the words "by Israel" in operative paragraph 2, following the word "prevented", and by substituting the word "Deplores" for the word "Condemns" in operative paragraph 3.

26. At the 889th meeting, on 16 November, the draft resolution as revised (A/SPC/L.276/Rev.1) was put to the vote. The revised draft resolution was adopted by a recorded vote of 101 to 4, with 14 abstentions (see paragraph 36 below, draft resolution I C). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Barbados, Costa Rica, Israel, Nicaragua.

Abstaining: Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Khmer Republic, Malawi, Paraguay, Portugal, United States of America, Venezuela.

D. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.277

27. At the 885th meeting, on 13 November, the representative of Pakistan introduced a draft resolution (A/SPC/L.277) sponsored by Afghanistan, Chad, Guinea, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Pakistan, Senegal, Somalia and Yugoslavia. Dahomey also joined later as a sponsor.

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28. At the 889th meeting, on 16 November, the draft resolution was put to the vote. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.277 was adopted by a recorded vote of 78 to 6, with 35 abstentions (see paragraph 36 below, draft resolution I D). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Barbados, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Israel, Nicaragua, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Khmer Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela.

E. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.286

29. At the 889th meeting, on 16 November, the representative of India introduced a draft resolution entitled "Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East" (A/SPC/L.286) sponsored by Afghanistan, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, India, Iran, Jamaica, Sweden and Yugoslavia.

30. On 16 November, the Secretary-General, in accordance with rule 155 of the rules of procedure, submitted to the Committee a statement (A/SPC/L.288) on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution.

31. At the 891st meeting, on 20 November, the draft resolution was put to the vote. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.286 was adopted by 115 votes to none (see paragraph 26 below, draft resolution II).

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F. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.287/Rev.1

32. At the 889th meeting, on 16 November, the representative of Saudi Arabia introduced the following draft resolution (A/SPC/L.287) in place of the two amendments submitted previously by his delegation, which had been withdrawn (see paragraphs 14-21 above):

"The General Assembly,

"Considering that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East is in dire need of additional funds to meet its minimal annual expenses,

"Noting that many Member States are not in a position to make any contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

"Taking into account that the United States contribution to the regular budget of the United Nations has been reduced to 25 per cent by a decision of the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session on the understanding that the United States will endeavour to maintain and possibly increase its voluntary contributions to the various agencies and other organs of the United Nations,

"Considering further the deep interest which the Federal Republic of Germany has manifested in the Middle East for many years,

"Appeals to States Members of the United Nations, especially those with \$1,500 or more per capita income, to consider increasing their contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East."

33. At the 891st meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Saudi Arabia introduced a revised text of that draft resolution (A/SPC/L.287/Rev.1) (for the text, see paragraph 36 below, draft resolution I E).

34. At the same meeting, the revised draft resolution (A/SPC/L.287/Rev.1) was put to the vote. At the request of the representative of Norway, separate votes were taken on the third, fourth and fifth preambular paragraphs of the revised draft resolution.

(a) The third preambular paragraph was adopted by a recorded vote of 57 to 20, with 36 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chad, Congo, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait,

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Lesotho, Libyan Arab Republic, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Sweden, Rukey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.

(b) The fourth preambular paragraph was adopted by a recorded vote of 46 to 27, with 40 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Republic, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Chad, Cyprus, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

(c) The fifth preambular paragraph was adopted by a recorded vote of 29 to 27, with 54 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Bahrain, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Hungary, Kuwait, Liberia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Niger, Oman, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Barbados, Botswana, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Chad, Cyprus, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

35. The revised draft resolution as a whole was then put to the vote. Draft resolution A/SPC/L.287/Rev.1 was adopted by a recorded vote of 67 to 3, with 43 abstentions (see paragraph 35 below, draft resolution I E). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chad, Congo, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

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Against: Israel, Nicaragua, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Sweden, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela.

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III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

36. The Special Political Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

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

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2452 C (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, 2535 C (XXIV) of 10 December 1969, 2672 B (XXV) of 8 December 1970, 2792 B (XXVI) of 6 December 1971 and 2963 B (XXVII) of 13 December 1972,

Taking note of the annual report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973, 3/

Concerned about the continued human suffering resulting from the June 1967 hostilities in the Middle East,

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 2252 (ES-V), 2341 B (XXII), 2452 C (XXIII), 2535 C (XXIV), 2672 B (XXV), 2792 B (XXVI) and 2963 B (XXVII):

2. Endorses, bearing in mind the objectives of those resolutions, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to other persons in the area who are at present displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 hostilities;

3. Strongly appeals to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously for the above purposes to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session,
Supplement No. 13 (A/9013).

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B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2963 A (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 and all previous resolutions referred to therein, including resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,

Taking note of the annual report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973, 4/

1. Notes with deep regret that repatriation or compensation of the refugees as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III) has not been effected, that no substantial progress has been made in the programme endorsed by the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 513 (VI) of 26 January 1952 for the reintegration of refugees either by repatriation or resettlement and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of serious concern;

2. Expresses its thanks to the Commissioner-General and to the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for their continued faithful efforts to provide essential services for the Palestine refugees, and to the specialized agencies and private organizations for their valuable work in assisting the refugees;

3. Notes with regret that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine was unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III) and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation thereof and to report thereon as appropriate, but no later than 1 October 1974;

4. Directs attention to the continuing critical financial position of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as outlined in the Commissioner-General's report;

5. Notes with concern that, despite the commendable and successful efforts of the Commissioner-General to collect additional contributions to help relieve the serious budget deficit of the past year, contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East continue to fall short of the funds needed to cover essential budget requirements;

6. Calls upon all Governments as a matter of urgency to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, particularly in the light of the budgetary deficit projected in the Commissioner-General's report, and therefore urges non-contributing Governments to contribute and contributing Governments to consider increasing their contributions.

4/ Ibid.

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Recalling also its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2452 A (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, 2535 B (XXIV) of 10 December 1969, 2672 D (XXV) of 8 December 1970, 2792 E (XXVI) of 6 December 1971 and 2963 D (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, calling upon the Government of Israel to take effective and immediate steps for the return without delay of those inhabitants who had been displaced since the outbreak of hostilities in June 1967; and its resolutions 2792 C (XXVI) of 6 December 1971 and 2963 C (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, calling upon the Government of Israel to take immediate and effective steps for the return of the refugees concerned to the camps from which they were removed in the Gaza Strip, and to provide adequate shelters for their accommodation,

Emphasizing the necessity of full implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 18 September 1973, 5/

Noting that the Israeli occupation authorities have persisted in adopting measures that obstruct the return of the displaced population to their homes and camps in the occupied territories - including changes in the physical and demographic structure of the occupied territories, by the displacement of inhabitants, the transfer of population, the destruction of towns, villages and homes, and the establishment of Israeli settlements - in violation of the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 6/ as well as the pertinent United Nations resolutions, and reaffirming that it considers those measures null and void,

1. Reaffirms the right of the displaced inhabitants, including those displaced as a result of recent hostilities, to return to their homes and camps;
2. Considers that the plight of the displaced inhabitants continues because they have been prevented from returning to their homes and camps;
3. Deplores the refusal of the Israeli authorities to take steps for the return of the displaced inhabitants in accordance with the above-mentioned resolutions;
4. Calls once more upon Israel immediately to:
 - (a) Take steps for the return of the displaced inhabitants;

5/ A/9155 and A/9156.

6/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973, p. 287.

(b) Desist from all measures that obstruct the return of the displaced inhabitants, including measures affecting the physical and demographic structure of the occupied territories;

(c) Take effective steps for the return of the refugees concerned to the camps from which they were removed in the Gaza Strip and to provide adequate shelters for their accommodation;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, to report as soon as possible, and whenever appropriate thereafter, but in any case not later than the opening date of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly, on Israel's compliance with and implementation of paragraph 4 of the present resolution.

D

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the problem of the Palestine Arab refugees has arisen from the denial of their inalienable rights under the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recalling its resolution 2535 B (XXIV) of 10 December 1969, in which it reaffirmed the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, and its resolutions 2649 (XXV) of 30 November 1970, 2672 C (XXV) of 8 December 1970, 2787 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 2792 D (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 2955 (XXVII) of 12 December 1972 and 2963 E (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, in which it recognized inter alia that the people of Palestine is entitled to the right of self-determination,

Bearing in mind the principle of equal rights and self-determination enshrined in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter and more recently reaffirmed in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations 7/ and in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, 8/

1. Reaffirms that the people of Palestine is entitled to equal rights and self-determination, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

2. Expresses once more its grave concern that the people of Palestine has been deprived by Israel from enjoying its inalienable rights and from exercising its right to self-determination;

3. Declares that full respect for and realization of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, particularly its right to self-determination, are

7/ General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

8/ General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV).

indispensable for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and that the enjoyment by the Palestine Arab refugees of their right to return to their homes and property, recognized by the General Assembly in resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, which has been repeatedly reaffirmed by the General Assembly since that date, is indispensable for the achievement of a just settlement of the refugee problem and for the exercise by the people of Palestine of its right to self-determination.

E

The General Assembly,

Considering that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East is in dire need of additional funds to meet its minimal annual expenses,

Noting that many Member States are not in a position to make any contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

Noting also that many States, instead of contributing to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, prefer to extend direct aid to the Palestine refugees,

Taking into account that the contribution of the United States of America to the regular budget of the United Nations has been reduced to 25 per cent by General Assembly resolution 2961 B (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 on the understanding that the United States will endeavour to maintain and possibly increase its voluntary contributions to the various agencies and other organs of the United Nations,

Considering further the deep interest which certain western European and other States, and in particular the Federal Republic of Germany, have manifested in the Middle East for many years,

1. Expresses its gratitude to all States which have in the past generously contributed to the budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

2. Appeals to Member States, especially those with \$1,500 or more per capita income, to consider increasing their contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief
and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2791 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 2963 (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 and 2964 (XXVII) of 13 December 1972,

Having considered the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, 9/

Taking into account the annual report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973, 10/

Deeply concerned at the financial situation of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, which continues to be serious, thereby endangering the essential services being provided to Palestine refugees,

Convinced of the continuing need for extraordinary efforts in order to maintain, at least at their present minimum level, the activities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

1. Commends the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its work;
2. Notes with appreciation the report of the Working Group;
3. Requests the Working Group to continue its efforts in co-operation with the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General, for the financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for a further period of one year;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

9/ A/9231.

10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/9013).