

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



GENERAL

A/1935/Add.1
16 January 1952

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Dual Distribution

Sixth session
Agenda item 27

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

Report of the Agent General of the
United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency

Letter dated 15 January 1952 from the Agent General of the United
Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency, addressed to the
Secretary-General

Paris, 15 January 1952

I have the honour to transmit a summary of action taken by the Advisory Committee to the Agent General of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency at its meetings held in Paris on 10, 11, 12 and 14 January 1952.

I would request that this document be presented to the General Assembly as addendum 1 to document A/1935 - Relief and Rehabilitation of Korea - Report of the Agent General of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency.

(Signed) J. Donald KINGSLEY
Agent General

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE AGENT GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS KOREAN
RECONSTRUCTION AGENCY AT ITS MEETINGS HELD IN
PARIS ON 10, 11, 12 AND 14 JANUARY 1952

The Advisory Committee to the Agent General of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency, composed of representatives of the Governments of Canada, India, Uruguay, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, approved in principle at its eleventh meeting an over-all \$250,000,000 programme presented by the Agent General of UNKRA for the relief and rehabilitation of Korea during the first year of full-scale UNKRA operations. The programme, which has been designed to dovetail with the emergency programme of the United Nations Command in Korea, will be kept under constant review both by the Advisory Committee and by the Agent General, in the light of conditions as they develop.

This one-year programme provides for meeting the basic needs of the Korean people in the way of food, clothing, medical care and shelter in the post-hostilities period, as well as for a start on rehabilitation in such fields as housing, public health, education, public welfare facilities, agriculture, fishing, electric power, textiles, mining, shipping, inland transportation and communications. In these and other fields, plans and specific projects have been developed by the Agent General and his staff in Korea, in co-operation with the relevant Korean officials. In developing the programme, special attention has been devoted to the serious problem of inflation in Korea and to methods of bringing it under control.

The programme has been broken down into specific projects, thus giving it flexibility and making variable timing possible. Particular projects can be undertaken as early as conditions permit and their inauguration need not necessarily await the assumption of full operational responsibility by UNKRA. In this connexion, the Advisory Committee noted with approval an understanding reached between the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency and the United Nations Command which provides, among other things, for assumption by UNKRA of full operational responsibility for the relief and rehabilitation of Korea at a time six months after the cessation of hostilities, unless the military situation will not, at that time, permit such a transfer of responsibility.

/Agreement

Agreement has also been reached with the United Nations Command upon the establishment of Joint Committees to work out programmes. The Advisory Committee noted with satisfaction that such joint bodies are already working in Pusan and Tokyo.

Through this joint programming machinery, the Agent General may propose projects for operation either by the military authorities or directly by UNKRA, even during the present military phase. The Agent General and the Advisory Committee are hopeful that a number of such projects, some of which are currently under discussion with the United Nations Command, can be carried out in the immediate future, and the Committee has accordingly authorized the expenditure of some eight million dollars for this purpose. Projects considered and approved by the Advisory Committee for early execution, if concurred in by the United Nations Command, include the provision of fishing nets urgently needed for augmenting the food supply, the re-establishment of a merchant marine school, the importation of poultry and farm animals, a number of rehabilitation projects in the fields of education, vocational training and public health, the inauguration of specific engineering surveys and the development of detailed blueprints for power, mining and other industrial installations essential to the rehabilitation of the Korean economy. The Committee recognizes that under present conditions, military requirements in Korea must necessarily be over-riding, and that many unforeseeable circumstances may determine whether a particular project can, in fact, be carried through at a particular time. As a result, it has authorized the Agent General, in consultation with the United Nations Command, to exercise some discretion in the selection of particular projects within the scope of the immediate eight million dollar programme.

The Committee authorized the Agent General to second civilian personnel to the United Nations Civil Assistance Command during the period that that Command is responsible for Korean relief and rehabilitation. In this way UNKRA will be able to give immediate help to Korea, as well as ensure an efficient and swift change-over when UNKRA assumes full responsibility. The Agency already has over forty people in Korea assigned to the provincial relief teams and otherwise working under direction of the Civil Assistance Command. This staff is engaged on the distribution of relief supplies, the prevention

/of epidemics,

of epidemics, and related health and welfare activities, as well as on short-term economic rehabilitation. The Agency has now received requests for an additional fifty-four persons. Further substantial requests for personnel are anticipated.

The Committee reviewed the financial statements submitted by the Agent General, both on operations and contributions. The Committee noted that pledges have been received amounting to \$205,500,000, and it felt that the programme had now reached the stage where Member States should make an effort to meet their pledges. Moreover it felt that, since the overall programme envisaged an expenditure of \$250,000,000, those Member States that had not already pledged contributions should be strongly urged to do so.

There was unanimous agreement that the utmost efficiency and economy must be achieved, so that the people of Korea might derive the greatest possible benefits from the funds and materials subscribed.

14 January 1952
