

**United Nations**  
**ECONOMIC**  
**AND**  
**SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**Nations Unies**  
**CONSEIL**  
**ECONOMIQUE**  
**ET SOCIAL**

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INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

EXECUTIVE BOARD

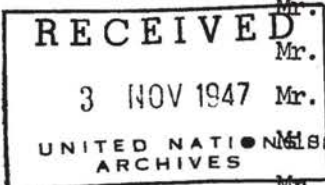
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOURTEENTH MEETING

Lake Success, New York

Saturday, 4 October 1947, at 11.00 a.m.

Present:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Ludwik Rajchman	(Poland)
	Mr. S. Graziadio	(Argentina)
	Mr. G. Jockel	(Australia)
	Mr. R. de Oliveira Campos	(Brazil)
	Mr. V. Skorobogatyi	(Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic)
	Mrs. D. B. Sinclair	(Canada)
	Dr. H. C. Chang	(China)
	Mr. R. Castello	(Colombia)
	Mr. J. Stolz	(Czechoslovakia)
	Mrs. N. M. Wright	(Denmark)
	Dr. J. Correa	(Ecuador)
	Dr. Mabileau	(France)
	Mr. Pasmazoglou	(Greece)
	Dr. M. Klompe	(Netherlands)
	Mr. T. O. W. Brebner	(New Zealand)
	Mrs. A. Lionaes	(Norway)
	Mr. J. A. Encinas	(Peru)
	Mr. R. Bergstrom	(Sweden)
	Mr. H. Zoelly	(Switzerland)
	Mr. L. Kozulya	(Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)
	Mr. H. Woodward	(Union of South Africa)
	Mr. A. P. Borisov	(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
	Mr. J. Alexander	(United Kingdom)
	Miss K. Lenroot	(United States)
	Mr. S. Krasovec	(Yugoslavia)
	Absent	(Iraq)



Executive

Director: Mr. M. Pate

(ICEF)

<u>European Office:</u>	Mr. A. Davidson	(ICEF)
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. B. Cohen	(Assistant Secretary-General, Dept. of Public Information)
	Mr. Martin Hill	(Representing Secretary-General)
	Mr. C. Litteria	(Department of Social Affairs)

Continuation of the Discussion of the Report of the Programme Committee  
(Document E/ICEF/26).

Miss LENROOT (United States) pointed out several errors in the annexes to the report. The total of the quarterly budget for the Paris headquarters in Annex 4 should read: frs.1,194,000. The total at the bottom of the page should read: frs.4,904,000. The total in Annex 5 should read \$42,467. In Annex 1 there were some errors to which she would revert later.

Mr. CAMPOS (Brazil) said that after a careful study of the budget it seemed to him that a substantial saving could be made if the headquarters were transferred from Washington to New York. Recommended cuts in the budget of the United Nations made it likely that there would be space available for offices for the Fund at Lake Success itself. Even if there was no room, however, and offices had to be found in Manhattan, office space was still less expensive there than in Washington. The sum set aside for office rent in Annex 1 was \$6,000 for one quarter. That meant \$24,000 for a year. Counting ideal offices with 100 square feet per person, a staff such as the one in Washington of forty-three persons would require a maximum space of 43,000 square feet. In the Empire State Building office space cost \$4 per square foot. The annual office rental in New York would therefore be \$17,200 as compared with the estimated \$24,000 in Washington. This was a considerable saving. With the present situation of headquarters, a great deal of money was spent in travelling expenses and long distance telephone calls between New York and Washington. A considerable saving could also be made in these items if the offices were transferred. The arguments given for having the Fund's offices in Washington, namely, that it should be in close touch with the FAO, with the United States Congress, and with the United States Department of Agriculture, had now lost their force. A small staff in Washington could keep in close touch with the FAO. Contact with the other two bodies was no longer so necessary. Under Assembly Resolution No. 57(1) the responsibility for the financial supervision of the Fund lay with the United Nations. This supervision could be far more conveniently effected if the Fund were in New York. Finally, since most of the members of the Executive Board lived in New York where the Board met, it was both more convenient and less expensive for the main offices to be in New York.

In the Paris budget a substantial sum could be saved in rent if the offer of the French Government to finance an international children's centre were accepted. This offer had not been received with the warmth it deserved.

/It was difficult

It was difficult to examine the estimates for staff since they had not been given in sufficient detail.

Finally, the report did not make clear what was the situation as to the geographical representation of the staff.

Mr. PATE (Executive Director) said the administration wished to follow the United Nations salary system, and was gradually achieving a balanced geographical distribution of the staff. There were other arguments for having the Fund's main offices in Washington than those mentioned by the Brazilian representative. The Fund had to keep in close touch not only with the FAO, but also with the International Emergency Food Council, both of which organizations were situated in Washington. Moreover, moving the offices to New York would involve recruiting anew a considerable portion of the staff, since most of the staff of the Fund, including many of the key officials, were residents of Washington and had accepted to work for the Fund because it was situated there. The quarterly sum estimated for travelling expenses should not be quadrupled. There was little reason to expect similar expenses in any future year. They were high for that quarter because a number of persons were being assigned to Europe, because the Fund was sending representatives to China and the Far East to study the situation there, and finally because other representatives were being sent to Central and South America with the purpose of urging governments to make contributions.

The salary policy of the administration was conservative, thus the Fund had gained the confidence of the United Nations. The budget for the Paris office seemed large, but it was not so in fact since, as was well known, the cost of living and materials in France was extremely high.

Mr. DAVIDSON (ICEF) said that the French offer to which the Brazilian representative had referred was not an offer of offices for the Fund but for an International Children's Centre. Moreover, as offices for the Fund it was unsuitable since it was much too small. The Paris staff was gradually becoming more evenly distributed as to nationality. Of the twenty-four persons in the Paris office, only eleven were United States citizens, five were from the United Kingdom, two from Canada, one from France, one from Australia, one from Denmark, one from Sweden, one from the Netherlands, one from Norway, and one from Bolivia. The grades of employees were as follows: one Grade 9 and one Grade 13 employee for public information; one Grade 12, one Grade thirteen and one Grade 14 for supply; one Grade 13 and one Grade 16 for technical services; one Grade 10, one Grade 11 and two Grade 14 for administration and finance.

Mr. CASTELLO (Colombia) said that the United Nations model for personnel should not be followed. It was quite clear from the discussions in the

Fifth Committee that it was unsuitable. The nationality distribution in the United Nations was also meeting with criticism from all sides.

There were two arguments for moving the headquarters of the Fund to New York. The permanent delegations were all in New York and were the bodies with which the Fund was primarily concerned for contributions. The Executive Board, moreover, met infrequently and could not properly go over three months' work of the Programme Committee in three or four days, as it had to do if it was to be out of contact with the main body of the Fund most of the time.

Mr. STOLZ (Czechoslovakia) had several questions concerning the staff of the Fund. On page 19 of the August report of the Executive Director (document E/ICEF/23 Annex 2) there were three posts for handling government contributions. Three persons to handle the contributions for the only three contributing governments seemed excessive. Page 19 also mentioned posts for public information consultants. The United Nations Public Information Department would be willing to advise the Fund in public information matters. The work of the Fund was often brought up in meetings of the Economic and Social Council and matters discussed there were handled by the Public Information Department of the United Nations itself. Therefore, another public information section in the organization of the Fund itself would simply duplicate the work and probably create confusion in the mind of the public. At best public information about the Fund should be handled by the Public Information Department of the United Nations. The United Nations Appeal for Children should deal with One Day's Pay.

If the representative of Brazil desired to move for the transfer of the headquarters to New York he would second it.

Miss LENROOT (United States) pointed out that the Sub-committee on Administrative Budget had found the situation changed since the time of the Executive Director's report in August. The number of approved posts was reduced. There was only one post for the handling of government contributions and two for public information. These two posts were for persons who would collect raw material on which the Public Information Department of the United Nations could work. The post for government contributions involved more than merely handling cheques from contributing governments. It also involved keeping up relations with governments so as to keep up their interest and obtain contributions from them. The Fund was responsible for procuring government contributions, just as the United Nations Appeal for Children was responsible for voluntary contributions. Consequently it was essential for the Fund to have one or two persons to handle relations with governments, at least for the next three or four months.

/The Board

The Board had agreed at a previous meeting that the geographical distribution of the staff should be broadened.

She agreed that it would be profitable to have the Fund's headquarters close to the United Nations. In the beginning, however, it had been found preferable to have them in Washington. It would be difficult to decide at a Board meeting whether to move the headquarters now or not.

Mr. KRASOVEC (Yugoslavia) was impressed by the arguments of the representative of Brazil. Most of the reasons for having the Fund's offices in Washington were now obsolete. If it was desirable for the Fund to keep in close touch with the FAO, it was even more desirable for it to be close to the United Nations headquarters, from the administrative point of view and from that of co-operation with other agencies.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) did not agree with the representative of the United States that the Board was not the one to decide on the situation of the headquarters of the Fund. On the contrary, it was for the Board, the highest body of the Fund, to make the decision. He strongly favoured the suggestion of the representatives of Brazil and Colombia.

Mr. BORISOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed with these views. The main object was to have a close connection with countries represented in New York. The transfer of the Fund's headquarters to New York would lead to great economy. The reasons for the Fund's offices being in Washington were at present no longer valid. The administrative staff was, of course, of great value, but the staff could easily be recruited in New York. The Board should decide to move the headquarters, in the near future.

The CHAIRMAN felt that the question of moving the headquarters was a difficult one. There was, however, one more reason for the Fund's being in New York. The Fund was expected to make reports to a great many United Nations bodies. This was almost impossible without an adequate staff in New York. Moreover, representatives of the Fund had to attend these meetings and, since the main work of these meetings was done before they actually met, representatives had to be present also at these preliminary discussions.

Nevertheless, there was an important reason for the Fund's offices being in Washington. One of the main functions of the Fund was to get contributions from governments. The major contribution so far had been that of the United States Government. This contribution, however, was for the present fiscal year. It was incumbent on the administration to provide the United States with all the necessary data so that the Fund might receive a further contribution the following year. This could best be done if the headquarters of the Fund were in Washington.

/The strongest

The strongest argument was based on the fundamental purpose of the Fund. The Fund was a supply organization. It had to buy supplies and see to it that they got to their destination. Supplies were purchased in Washington, not in New York.

For these reasons he felt that the bulk of the administration should be in Washington, although there were strong arguments for its being in New York. The situation of the headquarters was a serious matter which had to be settled before the end of the session.

Mr. CASTELLO (Colombia) suggested that Mr. Cohen describe briefly the activities of the Public Information Department of the United Nations and tell the Board how it could help the Fund.

He added that he was not convinced by the Chairman's arguments, and made the following motion:

"The Executive Board of the International Children's Emergency Fund recommends that the Fund should move its headquarters to New York as soon as conveniently possible."

Mr. COHEN (Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Public Information) said that the Public Information Department of the United Nations desired to help the Fund in every way it could. It would see that any material provided by the Fund should be communicated to the public through the Bulletin, press releases, and radio broadcasts. It was willing to do even more, but before it could act it needed to know the policy of the Fund in the matter. What kind of information did it wish to have disseminated and by what means?

The Department was willing to put at the Fund's disposal all its information centres abroad. To the eleven centres already existing five more would shortly be added. These centres could do liaison work for the Fund. They could not only distribute but also gather information; they could thus keep the Fund in touch with public reactions to its programme. His department could help with posters and motion pictures. The world would have further evidence of the humanitarian work of the United Nations.

Mr. PESMAZOGLOU (Greece) felt that the matter of the situation of the headquarters could not be satisfactorily discussed at a plenary meeting. He suggested the setting up of a committee to study the question and to report to the Board at a later meeting.

Mr. JOCKEL (Australia) agreed with this suggestion. The questions of recruiting a new staff if the offices were moved to New York and finding quarters were serious matters. As the Brazilian representative had indicated, a comparative table of the United Nations' and the Fund's salaries was desirable. Mr. Davidson's statement that the grading for the Paris office was below the United Nations standard was alarming.

/Mr. STOLZ

Mr. STOLZ (Czechoslovakia) reminded the Board that public information did not mean "appeal to the general public". He felt that the administration should be careful to give consideration to the advice of the Board and make full use of the experience of its members.

He pointed out that so far as purchase and shipping were concerned, New York was more suitable than Washington. UNRRA was an organization similar to the Fund: it had found it necessary to open a New York office for these purposes.

Mr. PATE (Executive Director) believed that the Board could vouch that he had followed its advice. There was a serious difficulty in moving the headquarters. The Fund was an emergency organization and its staff had to accept temporary contracts. It was not easy to recruit a staff of high quality on these terms. A high tribute must be paid to the staff who had taken this risk. If the headquarters were moved, a new staff would have to be recruited at higher rates.

Mr. CHANG (China) felt that the question deserved serious consideration. He supported the Greek representative's proposal to set up a sub-committee.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) thanked Mr. Cohen for his statement. He referred to document E/ICEF/23. The aim of public information for the Fund was to keep governments informed. It was for the United Nations Appeal for Children to concern itself with appealing to the public.

The Greek representative's proposal for the setting up of a committee deserved approval. There should be no proliferation of small bodies. The Fund already had a Drafting Committee and a Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters. He felt that the question could be properly referred to the latter. He suggested enlarging that Committee to include two more members, namely the representatives of Brazil and Norway.

He asked why supplies had to be bought in Washington. Even if they were purchased solely from government agencies and not from commercial firms, this could be done in New York.

Mr. CAMPOS (Brazil) said that he did not feel that a sub-committee was necessary, but that if the Board decided to have one it should consist of those members who had not voiced any opinion as to the situation of the offices and would thus study the matter without prejudice, for instance the representatives of Argentina, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Mr. KRASOVEC (Yugoslavia) thought that the Fund could economize by limiting the number of foreign missions to one or two. Foreign experts were expensive, particularly owing to the high cost of living abroad. He suggested that instead there be three or four field staff centres, as suggested by Mr. Evatt, the Foreign Minister of Australia.

/Mr. CASTELLO

Mr. CASTELLO (Colombia) asked that his motion to move the headquarters to New York should be put to a vote.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that there were now three proposals: (1) to move the headquarters, proposed by the Colombian representative, (2) to set up a committee to study this matter, proposed by the Greek representative, and (3) to refer the matter to an enlarged Administrative and Budgetary Committee, proposed by Mr. Alexander.

Mr. CASTELLO (Colombia) said that the Board seemed to agree that ultimately the headquarters would have to be in New York. The committee would only decide on the time when the move was to be made.

Mr. PESMAZOGLOU (Greece) said that he was willing to have his motion incorporated with that of the representative of the United Kingdom.

Mr. KRASOVEC (Yugoslavia) said that he would not approve setting up the committee if that body was to decide whether or not the move should be made. He would approve it if it was only to decide when the move should be made.

The CHAIRMAN said that there were now two motions: that of the representative of Colombia, and the combined motion of the representatives of Greece and the United Kingdom, which was for the setting up of a committee to study whether and when the offices should be moved.

Mr. BORISOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that a committee had to be given a direction in which to work.

The CHAIRMAN replied that the Board would of course make the final decision, but that it would be better to have the question thoroughly discussed by a smaller body first.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) recommended taking the establishment of a committee as an amendment to the proposal of the Colombian representative. If this were done, the correct procedure would be to vote on the amendment first.

Mr. BORISOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) moved that the Board vote as to whether it wished to decide on the Colombian representative's proposal at that meeting or after the report of the suggested interim committee.

The CHAIRMAN put to the vote whether the Commission should decide at the present meeting or the following week.

DECISION: The proposal to decide the matter at the present meeting was lost by 8 votes against and 6 in favour.

The CHAIRMAN put to the vote whether the Board was in favour of setting up a sub-committee to decide whether and when the Fund's headquarters should be transferred to New York.

DECISION: The motion was adopted; 12 votes in favour and 1 against.

/The CHAIRMAN



The CHAIRMAN asked the Board whether it desired to refer the question to an ad hoc committee or to an enlarged Committee on Administrative and Budgetary matters.

Miss LENROOT (United States) asked if the Board decided to refer the question to an ad hoc committee, would it then go back to the question of enlarging the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary matters. The Chairman replied in the affirmative.

Mr. CAMPOS (Brazil) felt that the committee should be an ad hoc committee consisting of the representatives of Argentina, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Australia.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Board had two motions before it: (1) the establishment of an ad hoc committee composed of the representatives of Argentina, New Zealand, the Netherlands, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Australia and Czechoslovakia; (2) an enlarged finance committee composed of the representatives of the United States, Canada, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, France, Norway, Brazil and Australia.

DECISION: By 10 votes against and 8 in favour the ad hoc Committee was rejected.

It was therefore decided to refer the matter to the enlarged finance Committee.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Board should discuss the Programme Committee's recommendation to increase the allocation to Czechoslovakia. The following report was read to the members of the Board (E/ICEF/28):

"The Programme Committee held its 24th meeting on 4 October 1947 to discuss the Czechoslovakian request for an increase in its initial allocation.

"The Committee recommends a change in the allocation to Czechoslovakia from 75,000 child food units, valued at \$352,000 to a total value of \$582,000 (or 125,000 child food units). The recommendation is based on a sharp reduction in certain foreign voluntary relief agency activities in Czechoslovakia as well as a marked deterioration in indigenous crop production caused by the recent drought. Since the full consequences of the drought, which was not anticipated at the time of the initial allocation, cannot be completely evaluated at this time, it is recommended that the Administration, in consultation with the Czechoslovakian Government, develop a proposed plan of operations for the increased allocation of \$230,000 and submit it for approval to the next meeting of the Programme Committee."

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) said that he had often spoken in favour of an increase in the Czechoslovak allocation. One of the criteria set up by the Fund for such an eventuality was the assurance that governments made every effort to help themselves. This the Czechoslovak Government had done. An increased allocation was therefore well deserved.

DECISION: The recommendation was approved unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN replied affirmatively to the United States representative's question as to whether this increased allocation was to come out of the adjustment reserve of \$750,000.

Mrs. SINCLAIR (Canada) asked whether the draft resolution, recommending that governments make contributions to the Fund, would be submitted to the Assembly with the report.

Miss LENROOT (United States) said that she approved the resolution with the alteration of "authorized by" instead of "of" between "contribution" and "the United States" in the second line of the fifth paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN said that the draft resolution would not be discussed until the next meeting.

The meeting rose at 1.40 p.m.

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