

# JNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr. GENERAL E/ICEF/SR.114 28 September 1953 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

EXECUTIVE BOARD

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York on Wednesday, 9 September 1953, at 2.40 p.m.

### CONTENTS

Progress report on WEO/UNICEF-assisted maternal and child health programmes in fifteen countries (E/ICEF/235)(continued)
General progress report of the Executive Director (E/ICEF/236)
Statements of regional directors (E/ICEF/238 and 239)
Statement by the Executive Director concerning Korea and Japan

```
E/ICEF/SR.114
English
Page 2
```

## PRESENT:

teronia .		
Chairman:	Mr. LINDT	Switzerland
Members:	Mr. CARASALES	Argentina
	Mr. BRENNAN	Australia
	Mr. WOULBROUN) Mr. FENAUX )	Belgium
	Mr. LEITE	Brazil
	Mr. TEPLOV	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic
	Mrs. SINCLAIR	Canada
	Mr. TSAO	China
	Mr. RYBAR	Czechoslovakia
	Mr. CONCHA	Ecuador
9	Mr. GORSE	France
	Mr. ROUSSOS	Greece
	Mr. BANERJEE	India
	Mr. UMARI	Iraq
	Mrs. HARMAN	Israel
	Mr. ROBERTT	Italy .
	Mr. GUNDERSEN	Norway
	Mr. HAMDANI	Pakistan
	Mr. LAVALLE	Peru
	Mr. REYES	Philippines
	Mr. DEVAKUL	Thailand
	Mr. SVIRIN	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
	Mr. BARNES	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Miss ELIOT	United States of America
	Mr. KOS	Yugoslavia
Representatives	of specialized agencies:	
	Mr. VAN VEEN ) Mrs. SISMANIDIS) Miss SCOTT ) Mr. WORK )	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
	Dr. SUTTER ) Mr. GRANT ) Dr. VERHOESTRATE)	World Health Organization (WHO)

# PRESENT: (continued)

## Representatives of non-governmental organizations

Mr. ACTON

NGO Committee on UNICEF

Category A:

Mrs. BERESFORD FOX

World Federation of United Nations

Associations

Category B:

Miss GUTHRIE )
Miss WOODSMALL)

International Alliance of Women

Mr. LONGARZO

International Conference of Catholic

Charities

Mr. ACTON

International Society for the Welfare of

Cripples

Miss SCHAIN

Pan-Pacific Association

Miss WALSER

Women's International League for Peace

and Freedom

Mrs. ZIZZAMIA

World Union of Catholic Women's

Organizations

Register:

Miss SAWYER

Associated Countrywomen of the World

United Nations Secretariat:

Miss KAHN

Department of Social Affairs

UNICEF Administration:

Mr. PATE

Executive Director

Mr. HEYWARD

Deputy Director

Dr. BORCIC

Chief Medical Adviser

Dr. YUAN

Assistant Medical Adviser

Mr. DAVEE

Director, Latin America Regional Office

Mr. EGGER

Director, Africa, Europe and Eastern

Mediterranean Regional Offices

Mr. KEENY

Director, Asia Regional Office

Mr. CHARNOW

Secretary of the Board

PROGRESS REPORT ON WHO/UNICEF-ASSISTED MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMMES IN FIFTEEN COUNTRIES (E/ICEF/235) (continued)

Dr. VERHOESTRATE (World Health Organization), replying to a question from the representative of Canada, explained that the total amount allocated for international assistance to maternity and child health projects in the fifteen countries listed in the report (E/ICEF/235) was \$1,740,638 for 1953, while the estimates for 1954 were \$574,789.

In reply to a question from Mr. HAMDANI (Pakistan), he gave the figures according to countries. India had been omitted from the WHO estimates for 1954, since the projects in respect of that country would have been terminated by that date.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the list of figures would be circulated as a document later in the meeting.

# GENERAL PROGRESS REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (E/ICEF/236)

Mr. BANERJEE (India) expressed his appreciation of the report of the Executive Director, and in particular his gratitude for the comments on the prompt relief work done by the Indian Government in areas where assistance was required. The views of his Government on the work of UNICEF were well-known and he would therefore confine himself to hailing the Fund as one of the best examples of the United Nations in action.

Paragraphs 5 to 12 of the report gave a complete picture of the aid which still had to be supplied to under-developed countries and revealed both the magnitude and the urgency of the task. It was satisfactory to note that a growing number of countries and private individuals were contributing to UNICEF and it was to be hoped that, with the cessation of open hostilities in Korea, some countries with larger resources might be enabled to increase their contributions, thereby demonstrating their anxiety to preserve peace.

He expressed satisfaction that the administration was working on schemes for tackling the problems of child malnutrition on a large scale and for developing aid to rural areas; he hoped that recommendations on the subject would soon be forthcoming. His delegation would support the proposal for the establishment of an ad hoc committee of members for consultation on policy questions; he reserved the right to speak on the subject later, in the event of a fuller discussion.

He noted that, although almost the entire activity of the Fund was devoted to the under-developed countries, only twelve or thirteen members of the internationally recruited staff of the Fund were drawn from those countries. Whatever might be the reasons for that state of affairs, he felt that recruitment of staff from the areas with which the work of UNICEF was concerned would give a new impetus to the work.

Mr. KOS (Yugoslavia) found the report very satisfactory. UNICEF had been clearly revealed as a vitally necessary organization and its work must continue. The initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General in connexion with the Fund was worthy of appreciation.

Millions of children on all continents were receiving help from the Fund but it must not be forgetten that they represented only a small proportion of those needing assistance. The figures of requirements for protection of populations from yaws and malaria, BCG vaccination and the need for increased numbers of maternal and child health centres revealed that UNICEF was not facing a mere emergency situation but would need to continue its work on a long-term basis. A transition stage had been reached and the Fund would do well to pause and take stock of the position with a view to working out a new approach to the problems facing it during the second period of its activity. The Executive Director's report contained some details of new policies.

likin Warkherati yiliyot

E/ICEF/SR.114 English Page 6

Many of the problems facing the countries with which UNICEF was concerned were familiar arising from such usual conditions as lack of trained staff, inadequate resources to meet requirements for matching and self-help programmes, and the understandable reluctance of governments to assume additional financial burdens. Although the problems with which the Fund was concerned were not isolated but were an integral part of world economic conditions, it must not be forgotten that the criteria applied in the countries might not be the same as those applied by the Fund itself when establishing priorities. Nor could UNICEF be expected to deal with all the problems of welfare throughout the world; yet something was being done everywhere, usually with United Nations aid. It was important that all existing programmes should be continued and that there should be increased integration in the light of the new role which had been conferred upon the Fund.

He attributed the utmost importance to the continuation of the matching and self-help programmes. If countries were willing and able to match the assistance received, they should be asked to do so, on a voluntary basis, of course. They should not contribute anything less than the amount which they received. Abandonment of the matching and self-help principle would be a departure from the original spirit of the Fund.

He thought that the administration might try new forms of assistance to governments, helping them to collaborate with each other, arranging loans for them, or helping countries with complementary economic possibilities to help each other.

His delegation was in favour of the proposed sub-committee on policy questions and would advocate the participation, if only in an advisory capacity of representatives of specialized agencies.

UNICEF had always been ready to supply help in emergencies, for which reason Yugoslavia had had no hesitation in proposing that assistance should be granted to the victims of the earthquakes in Ionia and it was to be hoped that the assistance which had already been initiated would shortly reach adequate proportions.

Referring to the report on the milk conservation programmes (E/ICEF/234), he observed that it would prove of great value in his own country, since it threw much light on the situation. The report on maternal and child health programmes (E/ICEF/235) was a valuable document, particularly to countries which themselves required help. It was pleasing to note that such a satisfactory account of the work done could be given.

Yugoslavia was an example of a country which still required help in the field of maternal and child welfare. Despite a decrease in the infant mortality rate, that rate was still, in 1953, 105.3 per thousand. A large percentage of the deaths recorded were due to inadequate prenatal care. The high incidence of rickets and tuberculosis amongst children was another result of inadequate prenatal care. One-third of the mothers and children in Yugoslavia were still unable to obtain adequate medical care; 61.8 of the births in Yugoslavia took place without skilled help. There were still only fifteen children's hospitals in Yugoslavia. He hoped, however, that the agreement concluded in the current year between UNICEF, WHO and the Yugoslav Government would prove of value in combating existing difficulties.

Mr. ROBERTI (Italy) pointed out that Italy had in the past been one of the important beneficiaries of UNICEF assistance. At the peak period, namely the Spring of 1950, over one million children and mothers had been receiving assistance from UNICEF. The Italian Government had played its part in bearing the local costs of UNICEF assistance projects and had contributed about \$900,000 for aid to other countries. As time had passed, emphasis had shifted to other areas of the world, but Italy did not feel that it had been forgotten and a lasting monument of UNICEF activities was provided by the results of the milk conservation programme. That programme called for twenty central dairies, three of which had already been set up, in Turin, Rome and Bari, and one milk-drying plant. By 1952 UNICEF had allocated \$886,000 to work in Italy, while the Italian Government's expenditure should eventually be in the region of \$9,000,000.

A further example of UNICEF's work in Italy was the aid provided to handicapped children. A centre for that work had been established in Parma. When it was remembered that the UNICEF programme in Italy was but one of the activities in which the Fund was engaged throughout the world, that was convincing evidence of the importance of continuing the work of the Fund without subjecting it to any time-limit.

E/ICEF/SR.114 English Page 8

Mrs. HARMAN (Israel) found the reports before the Board highly interesting and comprehensive. Work had reached a stage when it was reasonable to indulge in some analysis. It must be remembered that millions more needed to be reached by UNICEF programmes, some of which had been proceeding more slowly than had been hoped. The size of countries and the distances to be covered had sometimes been underestimated. There was a persistent lack of trained personnel.

She agreed with the representative of Yugoslavia in welcoming the proposal for the establishment of a sub-committee on policy. She approved the suggestions contained in paragraphs 5 to 10 of the report for the continuation of programmes. She agreed with regard to the importance of standardization of equipment and the development of such items as kits for midwives; it should be remembered, however, that the needs of countries varied and standardization should not become an end in itself. UNICEF must be flexible and adaptable in order to meet the human needs with which it had been created to deal. An effort should be made to maintain schedules for supplies, although difficulties of transport should not be She wondered whether the field staff were adequate in number underestimated. to cope with problems in the field. She referred to page 11 of the report on maternal and child health programmes (E/ICEF/235), where there was some comment on the difficulties in staffing centres. She welcomed recommendations that local authorities should be helped to produce supplies for themselves, for the method of helping countries to help themselves was typical of UNICEF, which was able to withdraw its assistance when self-help had become a habit.

She found the report on maternal and child health programmes (E/ICEF/235) excellent and was particularly interested in the stress laid on the need to train personnel and public health nurses, and to establish centres in relation to community development. The report on milk conservation programmes (E/ICEF/234) was also excellent, providing a large number of facts and stressing once more the importance of self-help. As an example of that principle, she quoted the case of Israel, where UNICEF had allocated \$300,000 for a milk-conservation programme and the Israel Government would provide \$2,980,000 in matching funds by the time the programme was completed. The programmes for both maternity and child welfare and milk conservation had already proved their importance and had become an integral part of government policy.

In conclusion, she paid a tribute to all who had helped to implement the programmes of UNICEF, a task which, as the Secretary-General had said, called for great devotion. She hoped that present contributors would continue to support UNICEF and that fresh countries would become contributors.

Mr. ROUSSOS (Greece) said that it was fitting that the Executive Director's report should constitute a review of the past and a plan for the future. The report conjured up wider vistas of possibilities for the work in which UNICEF was so efficiently engaged. He welcomed the new departure represented by school services and the increased emphasis laid on welfare. He pointed out that if too much reliance were placed on national financing of programmes, in implementation of the matching and self-help principles, considerable delay would frequently be incurred.

In conclusion, he referred to the heartening effect of such incidents as Mr. Spaak's visit to Greece and paid a tribute to the excellent services which the Fund had rendered to his country.

Mr. UMARI (Iraq) expressed his appreciation of the reports before the Board and stressed the important role played by UNICEF, a role which had always been esteemed at its full value by Iraq and other Middle Eastern countries. He welcomed all efforts towards improvement in health and nutrition and paid a particular tribute to the freedom from political influences demonstrated in all UNICEF programmes. The recent tragic events in Greece had provided another demonstration of the usefulness of UNICEF and he was glad that his country's vote had been of assistance in the adoption of the decision to provide help to Greece.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the Executive Director for the time and effort he had devoted to the work of UNICEF. He called on the Regional Directors to make statements concerning their areas.

# STATEMENTS OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS (E/ICEF/238 and 239)

Mr. EGGER (Director, Africa Regional Office) said that his statement would refer to the work already carried out in Africa and the work that was anticipated. Impressive progress had been made with the anti-malaria campaign in French West Africa and the Liberian Government malaria programme was now satisfactorily under way. Four-fifths of the goal set had already been achieved. More than 500,000 people had already received protection.

Care had been taken to initiate programmes in time, so that they might proceed without hindrance. There were indications that reactions of governments to such programmes were favourable. Certain difficulties had arisen: the area to be covered had been found to be larger than was expected, and costs were causing concern. Too much DDT per square metre had been used. Such initial problems, however, were to be expected. Other problems had arisen, such as inadequate supplies of sweet water in some areas and delays in the arrival of necessary personnel. New insecticides would be required and further areas would have to be sprayed. The first assessment of those campaigns would be made in the following year.

Helpful and satisfactory information had been supplied concerning the nutrition programmes in the Belgian Congo. In that area, work had been entrusted to a voluntary organization and the results obtained had been good. An increase in the height and weight of children served by the programme had already been noted and light and medium cases of nutritional deficiency had There had been almost no cases of recurrence. The distribution been cured. of milk had been highly satisfactory. Arrangements had been made for milk to be reconstituted in the individual villages, thereby increasing the possibilities of distribution. The Belgian Government was prepared to continue the programme on its own initiative. A parallel campaign initiated in French Equatorial Africa had not been so satisfactory and the results of a joint evaluation by WHO/FAO/UNICEF would be awaited before further information was offered.

Experiments were being made in Morocco on ways and methods of attacking trachoma. An encouraging report had already been received from the Moroccan Government and it was clear that genuine efforts were being made to ascertain the best methods of dealing with the disease. Emphasis was being laid on finding ways in which the Moroccans could help themselves. A report on the subject would be furnished to the Joint Committee on Health Policy. Tunisia, financial difficulties were being overcome and work would start early the In Nigeria, where the main diseases were malaria, yaws and following year. leprosy, it had not been easy to work out plans because of the number of authorities involved; field work was to start early in 1954. The extension of activity to the British territories of Central and East Africa was being Governments were showing definite interest in future co-operation, but Mr. Egger stressed that obligations should be stipulated with regard to the economic resources of the countries concerned and that the procedure should be simplified as much as possible. Generally speaking, governments looked askance at large-scale mass campaigns and preferred assistance in expanding their own health organizations. In spite of the scarcity of trained professional personnel, fruitful work was being done and the prospects for the expansion of UNICEF work in Central and East Africa were quite promising.

With regard to the future trends of the work, UNICEF expected to be asked to assist governments in fighting mass diseases, such as malaria, yaws and tuberculosis. As to tuberculosis, WHO had agreed that East, West and Central Africa should be visited before the end of 1953, so that the problem might be more thoroughly examined and advice given to the governments concerned. A first programme for dealing with leprosy had been accepted by the Board and governments were considering the submission of requests to UNICEF.

The MCH work to be undertaken was chiefly in the fields of training and the setting up of centres; the main problem was to enlist the collaboration of the population in African villages.

No further mass campaigns were to be undertaken in the field of nutrition until those already under way had been properly evaluated. The requests or expressions of interest received were chiefly in connexion with milk: the Nigerian Government was interested in the drying of buttermilk, and that of Uganda in sunflower powder to be added to the food of the Africans; the idea of getting milk from soya beans was also arousing interest.

STORY AND PROPERTY.

Questions had been asked about the speed and orientation of the work, both in relations with governments and in collaboration with WHO. The end of an important development period, during which there had not been much international aid to the development of African territories, had been reached but what metropolitan governments had done on a very large and impressive scale should not Territories had to prepare themselves to take over programmes be forgotten. after a period of development when funds were forthcoming from metropolitan sources, which was a heavy burden on their budgets. UNICEF being a new venture in Africa, it had not yet proved its importance to the governments there, with which it rested to decide whether work should be undertaken and what programmes should be followed. UNICEF should, he thought, approach governments directly and explain the possibilities of providing aid programmes; it should, as a rule, avoid indulging in pilot projects with a purely research purpose, except in cases where the methods and techniques were known and had to be adapted to local circumstances and where pilot projects were known to yield results that could be expected on a broader basis for larger campaigns. Moreover, in view of the hopeful start already made on some programmes, it would soon be amply proved that UNICEF could really be of assistance to governments.

Mrs. SINCIAIR (Canada) said that the difficulties given as the root of the problem in the kwashiorkor programmes were not obscure. She wondered whether they might not have been foreseen. She also inquired whether all the children, or only a specific group, were receiving milk; it seemed that only the school-age group was being reached, whereas the pre-school group was equally important.

Mr. EGGER (Director, Africa, Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office) replied that the first two main programmes, the campaign against malaria and the distribution of skimmed milk, had been developed upon the request of the governments concerned but that it had been impossible to organize contacts at first hand with the responsible ministries. The pre-school group was receiving close attention in French Equatorial Africa and, as a result of campaigns that had not given full satisfaction to the French authorities, the early school groups were to be included. There had also been a distribution programme worked out on

Mr. WOULBROUN (Belgium) thanked Mr. Egger for his report, and particularly for the work done in the Belgian Congo, where UNICEF could rest assured of the goodwill both of the Government and of private organizations.

Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) drew attention to the last sentence of paragraph 71 of the Report (E/ICEF/236). He asked whether expectations had been achieved where climatic and distribution difficulties had been overcome.

Mr. EGGER (Regional Director) replied that it took between 80 and 100 days for light and medium cases of kwashiorkor to show definite improvement. The necessary daily attendance had been the difficulty in French Equatorial Africa, but in the Belgian Congo more transport had been available and a system had been devised to reach the children daily, instead of making them go to the distribution points.

Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) said that he was under the impression that the period of recovery previously discussed had been shorter. He asked whether there had been a change in expert opinion.

Mr. VAN VEEN (Food and Agriculture Organization) answered that the whole scheme had really been an experiment. Recovery in hospital was very often rapid and might take from four to six weeks only, if there were no complications, but sometimes many months were required. Outside hospital, however, there was not the same control over individual treatment. In the Far East, for instance, in densely populated areas, the results could have been much more spectacular, but Africa, with its scattered population, was a more difficult place in which to undertake large-scale distribution. The experiment had been started in Africa because data from there was readily available. The results of surveys more recently made in Central and South America had not yet been published. Experiments could not always be expected to produce the anticipated results, and had perhaps not done so in the present case, but the situation might be reversed the following year. It would, of course, have been possible to wait for the opportunity of working in a more convenient area, but it was a good thing not to have done so and to have started where the need was known to be very great.

figuración de Blaco

to produce the anticipated results, and had perhaps not done so in the present case, but the situation might be reversed the following year. It would, of course, have been possible to wait for the opportunity of working in a more convenient area, but it was a good thing not to have done so and to have started where the need was greatest.

The CHAIRMAN inquired about the present position with regard to buttermilk and increased vegetable production.

Mr. EGGER (Regional Director) stated that the Nigerian Government had had consultations with FAO and with technical experts on the subject of buttermilk. An expert would shortly arrive in Nigeria from Paris to carry out a study on the spot. The Government was, in principle, prepared to buy the products to enable hospitals to dispose of buttermilk for kwashiorkor cases.

In Uganda, FAO and WHO were co-operating in experiments, which showed promising results, for producing sunflower powder.

Mr. KEENY (Director, Asia Regional Office) reported on UNICEF's activities in Asia (E/ICEF/238).

Mr. TSAO (China) said that the Director of the Asia Regional Office had presented a clear picture of the situation in that part of the world, particularly with regard to the acute problems which UNICEF encountered.

The need for UNICEF aid in Asia remained high despite the mass campaigns and MCW programmes already carried out. Living conditions were unsatisfactory and the food situation, while slightly better than in the previous year, was still below the pre-war level.

Governments in Asia were finding it difficult to carry out UNICEF programmes in view of the generally unsatisfactory economic situation. That justified the Executive Director's view that UNICEF's policy in Asia should be revised in the light of the existing situation, particularly with regard to the matching principle, the limit on the importation of materials, and expenditure for local staff.

Mr. HAMDANI (Pakistan) recorded his delegation's appreciation of the excellent report given by the Regional Director for Asia, Mr. Keeny.

The CHAIRMAN noted that reference was made in the Executive Director's progress report to a delay in the schedule for the UNICEF-aided DDT plant in Ceylon. He wondered whether that plant would commence operations in the near future.

He felt that the Board would appreciate additional information concerning the statement in paragraph 99 of the report that Vietnam and Cambodia had been waiting since October 1952 to start their campaigns but that no international team-leader had been found.

The Regional Director might also inform the Board of the status of the proposed children's centre in Calcutta.

Mr. KEENY (Director, Asia Regional Office) said that the delay in the operation of the DDT-plant in Ceylon had been caused by changes in the schedules of plants which were to manufacture components. The plant would begin operations a year later than scheduled.

The problem of the team-leader for Vietnam and Cambodia had given rise to some concern. There was a general shortage of physicians and trained nurses for BCG projects everywhere. Moreover, a French-speaking team-leader was required for that area. Two candidates were available at present and one of them would no doubt be appointed shortly.

As for the children's centre in Calcutta, there had been some delay in its construction and in the recruitment of personnel. The addition of a new floor, now completed, had been delayed because of the heavy workload in the local public works department but was now completed. The construction for the urban and rural training centres was still to be done.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that a report on the children's centre in Calcutta should be submitted to the Board at its next session.

Dr. SUTTER (World Health Organization) observed, in connexion with the team-leader for Vietnam and Cambodia, that a candidate had been available in July but that the clearance from the Vietnamese Government had been delayed by the lengthy procedure involved and the candidate had meanwhile obtained another position.

Mr. BANERJEE (India) expressed his Government's appreciation of UNICEF's work in India.

The Regional Director had referred to delays in the delivery of supplies and equipment for MCW work, particularly kits for midwives. That might be due in part to transport difficulties in remote areas.

Mr. KEENY (Director, Asia Regional Office) said that India was not in any way responsible for the delay. It was a UNICEF problem involving standardization of equipment. The problem had since been solved and the equipment was arriving in India.

### STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONCERNING KOREA AND JAPAN

Mr. PATE (Executive Director) said that he had recently returned from a visit to Japan and Korea in connexion with proposed UNICEF emergency assistance to those countries.

The UNICEF Administration had been aware for some time that a substantial surplus of dry skim milk had been accumulating in the United States and that outlets should be sought for its distribution, particularly in Korea, where the need was great. He had discussed the situation with the Agent-General, UNKRA, who had informed him that UNKRA's policy was to engage in long-term economic assistance. Long-term rehabilitation was also the policy of the co-ordinator for United States relief. Thus, only the voluntary organizations had access to the milk surplus in the United States but they were unable to defray the cost of transport except in rather limited quantities.

The Department of Agriculture of the United States Government had agreed to make the dry skim milk available to UNICEF without cost at the point of production, provided that UNICEF would pay for its transport from that point.

The UNICEF Administration felt that an opportunity was thus being offered to supply free milk to needy countries at a cost to UNICEF of two cents per pound.

Prior to his departure for the Far East, he had received an informal enquiry from the Japanese Government whether UNICEF would accept a request for assistance to the victims of the 1953 floods in Japan. He had replied that if such a request were made he would refer it to the Director of the Asia Regional Office for consideration and possible recommendation to the Board. Upon his arrival in Tokyo, he had been received by the Foreign Minister, who had informed him that the Government had requested the Diet to appropriate \$100,000 to UNICEF for the coming fiscal year. The contribution would be made in the form of Japanese products, such as sewing-machines, which UNICEF had found very useful.

The flood situation was even more serious than had been anticipated, having developed gradually over a period of two months. Japan was urgently in need of dry skim milk for 425,000 children, blankets and clothing for the flood victims. Each child would receive 22 grammes of milk daily instead of the standard ration of 40 grammes, because 6,000,000 Japanese children were already receiving a daily ration of 22 grammes, paid for by their parents. The plan was to provide the milk free, along with a ration of 100 grammes of rice supplied by the Government, until the end of July 1954.

With regard to blankets and clothing, the proposal was for UNICEF to provide raw wool to be exchanged in Japan for finished blankets and other woollen goods. Matters would be advanced if the transaction could be effected immediately through agreements with manufacturers.

The plan for UNICEF aid to Korea was given in detail in the recommendation to the Programme Committee for an apportionment for emergency feeding in Korea (E/ICEF/R.511). He had discussed the matter with officials of the Korean Civil Assistance Command, the Government of the Republic of Korea and the United Nations Command. He could not think of any worthier project than the distribution of free milk to Korean children. While voluntary agencies were doing their utmost, they were unable to cope with the vast need for supplemental food. The UNICEF Administration therefore proposed that a ration of 40 grammes of dry skim milk daily, for six days each week, should be made available to an average of two

million children and pregnant women and nursing mothers. Steps should also be taken to provide proteins in other forms, such as fish, when the milk-distribution project was completed.

The CHAIRMAN called on Mr. Egger, Director of the Africa, Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office, to report on UNICEF activities in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Mr. EGGER (Director, Africa, Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office) reported on the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean area (E/ICEF/239).

Miss ELICT (United States of America) wondered whether co-ordination committees had been set up in Middle Eastern countries. Such committees had already been established in Asia.

Mr. EGGER (Director, Africa, Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office) replied that the need for co-ordination committees was appreciated in the Middle East. They existed in Iraq and Israel. Turkey had made satisfactory provision for co-ordination and Egypt was anxious to establish a long-term development project with UNICEF participation.

The meeting rose at 6.30 p.m.