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Forty-third session
Agenda item 76UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES
IN THE NEAR EASTResumption of ration distribution to Palestine refugeesReport of the Secretary-General

1. The present report is submitted to the General Assembly in pursuance of its resolution 42/69 F of 2 December 1987, the operative paragraphs of which read as follows.

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Regrets that its resolutions 37/120 F, 38/83 F, 39/99 F, 40/165 F and 41/69 F have not been implemented;

"2. Calls once again upon all Governments, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible and to offer the necessary resources to meet the needs of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, particularly in the light of the interruption by the Agency of the general ration distribution to Palestine refugees in all fields, and therefore urges non-contributing Governments to contribute regularly and contributing Governments to consider increasing their regular contributions;

"3. Requests the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to resume on a continuing basis the interrupted general ration distribution to Palestine refugees in all fields;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution."

2. The Agency has continued to distribute rations to the most needy sector of the refugee population, special hardship cases, who numbered 119,512 persons in December 1987.

3. The Agency has provided emergency food assistance in Lebanon and in the Israeli occupied territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Two distributions of food were made to all registered refugees in Lebanon in 1987 and several ad hoc distributions were made to camp inhabitants and others affected by the fighting around the camps. In the West Bank, food supplies have been distributed in camps and other areas where refugees have concentrated as the need arises and as conditions permit. Food commodities have also been distributed through some 87,000 school children in the Gaza Strip. Food will continue to be distributed in all three places as long as the need remains and supplies are available.

4. Owing to continuing financial constraints, it has not been possible to resume the general ration distribution to all refugees.
