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ASSEMBLY**

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MEETING**

(Closing Meeting)

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**NEW YORK**

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**Chairman: Mr. Mihai MAGHERU (Romania).**

**AGENDA ITEM 26**

**Report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (A/3931, A/3948, A/SPC/29, A/SPC/31, A/SPC/L.31) (concluded)\***

1. Mr. HARRISON (United States of America), introducing the draft resolution of which his delegation was a co-sponsor (A/SPC/L.31), said that it represented an earnest endeavour to produce a text that would be acceptable to all the parties concerned. He considered that it was reasonable and moderate, dealing with the immediate operating problems of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the future provision of relief and rehabilitation for the refugees. For the most part, the preambular paragraphs had followed the formulations submitted in previous years to protect the interests of the parties involved and to reaffirm previous United Nations decisions. The final preambular paragraph had been included in response to the problem raised by the Director concerning the character of the Agency as a subsidiary organ of the United Nations.

2. The operative paragraphs contained nothing extreme. Paragraph 7 had been included so that proposals for the continuation of assistance might be placed before the Committee at the next Assembly. The United States had informally drawn attention to the need for such proposals during the past two years but considered that the exact means by which they were brought to the Committee was of secondary importance. If, for instance, the Secretary-General should be prepared to look into the operations of UNRWA and its mandate and to make appropriate proposals, the United States delegation would not insist on the retention of paragraph 7. It would welcome the views of the Secretary-General on that matter.

3. In sponsoring the draft resolution, the United States in no way intended to prejudge any proposals that might emerge from a review of all the facts of the situation. It fully realized that the refugee problem would continue beyond June 1960 and also intended to maintain its interest in the continued welfare of the refugees.

4. In further explanation of the United States position, he recalled the statement made at the previous session (70th meeting) by his country's representative and reiterated in the Committee on 10 November (102nd meeting). The United States still considered that a primary responsibility for working out a solution to the problem rested with Israel and the Arab States and that those parties should always be guided by the resolutions of the General Assembly.

5. The SECRETARY-GENERAL said, in reply to the United States representative, that, in view of the situation which would face the General Assembly the following year, he would, as part of his regular duties, look into the technical operation of UNRWA in preparation of such proposals as he might consider helpful or necessary to put forward to the General Assembly, in good time, for its consideration at its fourteenth session.

6. Mr. HARRISON (United States of America) said that, in view of the Secretary-General's statement, the co-sponsors of the draft resolution were willing to delete operative paragraph 7. A general examination and report of the type indicated by the Secretary-General would satisfy the purposes of that provision and make its inclusion in the resolution unnecessary.

7. The CHAIRMAN said that in consequence of the statements just made and in the absence of any objection, he would put the draft resolution to the vote without its original operative paragraph 7.

The draft resolution (A/SPC/L.31), as amended, was adopted by 44 votes to none, with 18 abstentions.

8. Mr. FOURIE (Union of South Africa) said that while he had voted affirmatively he wished to state for the record that he was unable to commit his Government in respect of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution.

**Completion of the Committee's work**

9. Mr. KHAN (India) thanked the Chairman for the able way in which he had presided over the debates in the Committee. He also thanked the Vice-Chairman and the Rapporteur, and expressed appreciation for the work of the Secretariat.

10. Mr. SHUKAIRY (Saudi Arabia), speaking on behalf of all the Arab States, expressed admiration for the impartiality, patience and skill with which the Chairman had directed the Committee's work and enabled it to dispose judiciously and expeditiously of the items on its agenda. He also paid a tribute to the Vice-Chairman and the Rapporteur, and thanked the members of the Secretariat for the efficient way in which they had performed their duties.

11. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. BEELEY (United Kingdom), Mr. PATTERSON (Cuba), Mr. VOUTOV (Bulgaria), Mr. LOURIE

\*Resumed from the 113th meeting.

(Israel), Mr. KURA (Turkey), Mr. MAURTUA (Peru), Mr. HARRISON (United States of America), Mr. BELTRANENA VALLADARES (Guatemala), Mr. PALAR (Indonesia), Mr. ILIC (Yugoslavia), Mr. CAYCO (Philippines), Mr. DUNCAN (Panama), Mr. PLAZA (Venezuela), Baron DE GAIFFIER D'HESTROY (Belgium) speaking on behalf of the Benelux countries, Mr. DE VAUELLES (France) speaking also on behalf of Italy, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Austria and Portugal, Mr. SANCHEZ BELLA (Spain) speaking also on behalf of Ireland, Mr. BROWNE (Canada) speaking also on behalf of Australia, Cambodia, Ceylon, the Federation of Malaya, Pakistan, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa, Mr. AMONOO (Ghana) speaking also on behalf of Ethiopia and Liberia, Mr. MAQUEIRA (Chile) speaking also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Colombia, and Mr. DOBROSIELSKI (Poland) speaking also on behalf of Czecho-

slovakia and Hungary, associated themselves with the expressions of appreciation and thanks.

12. The CHAIRMAN thanked the other officers of the Committee and all the members for their co-operation, which had contributed to the success of the Committee's work. He also expressed gratitude for the confidence shown in him and the honour done to his country by his election to the post of Chairman, and for the tributes paid to the manner in which he had discharged his task. He hoped that the unanimity achieved in the voting on certain resolutions would be followed up by unanimity of effort to put them into execution. In conclusion, he thanked all the members of the Secretariat who had collaborated in the work of the Committee.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.