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DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ORGANIZATION

PREAMBLE

The Governments accepting this Constitution RECOGNIZING  
that genuine refugees and displaced persons constitute an urgent problem  
which is international in scope and character;  
that as regards displaced persons, the main task to be performed is to  
encourage and assist in every way possible their early return to their  
country of origin;  
that genuine refugees and displaced persons should be assisted by  
international action either to return to their countries of nationality or  
former habitual residence or to find new homes elsewhere;  
that genuine refugees and displaced persons, until such time as their  
repatriation or re-settlement and re-establishment is effectively completed,  
should be protected in their rights and legitimate interests and should  
receive care and assistance, HAVE AGREED, for the accomplishment of the  
foregoing purposes in the shortest possible time, to establish and do  
hereby establish, a non-permanent organization to be called the  
International Refugee Organization, a specialized agency to be brought  
into relationship with the United Nations, and accordingly HAVE ACCEPTED  
the following ARTICLES.

ARTICLE I

MANDATE

The mandate of the Organization shall extend to refugees and displaced  
persons in accordance with the principles, definitions and conditions set  
forth in Annex I, which is attached to and made an integral part of this  
Constitution.

ARTICLE II

FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

1. The functions of the Organization to be carried out in accordance with  
the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, shall

be the repatriation; the identification, registration and classification; the care and assistance; the legal and political protection; the transport; and the re-settlement and re-establishment in countries able and willing to receive them, of persons who are the concern of the Organization under the provisions of Annex I. Such functions shall be exercised with a view:

(a) to encouraging and assisting in every way possible the early return to their country of origin of those persons who desire to return, and to promoting this by all possible means, in particular by providing them with material assistance, adequate food rations for a period of three months from the time of their departure from their present places of residence provided that they are returning to a deficit food area in a country suffering as a result of enemy occupation during the war and provided such food shall be distributed under the auspices of the Organization; and the necessary clothing and means of transportation; and,

(b) with respect to persons other than those included in paragraph (a) above to facilitating (i) their re-establishment in countries of temporary residence, (ii) the emigration to and re-settlement and the re-establishment in other countries of individuals or family units, and (iii) as may be necessary and practicable, within available resources and subject to the relevant financial regulations, the investigation, promotion or execution of projects of group re-settlement, or large-scale re-settlement.

2. For the purpose of carrying out its functions, the Organization may engage in all appropriate activities, and to this end, shall have power:

- (a) to receive and disburse private and public funds;
- (b) as necessary to acquire land and buildings by lease, gift or, in exceptional circumstances only, by purchase, and to hold such land and buildings or to dispose of them by lease sale or otherwise;

- (c) to acquire, hold and convey other necessary property;
- (d) to enter into contracts, and undertake obligations;
- (e) to conduct negotiations and conclude agreements with governments;
- (f) to consult and co-operate with public and private organizations whenever it is deemed advisable insofar as such organizations share the purpose of the Organization and observe the principles of the United Nations;
- (g) to promote the conclusion of bilateral arrangements for mutual assistance in the repatriation of displaced persons, having regard to the principles laid down in paragraph (c) (ii) of the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 12 February 1946 regarding the problem of refugees; \*
- (h) to appoint staff, subject to the provisions of Article IX of this constitution;
- (i) to undertake any project appropriate to the accomplishment of the purposes of this Organization;
- (j) to conclude agreements with countries able and willing to receive refugees and displaced persons for the purpose of ensuring the protection of their legitimate rights and interests insofar as this may be necessary;
- (k) and in general, to perform any other legal act appropriate to its purposes.

### ARTICLE III

#### RELATIONSHIP TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The relationship between the Organization and the United Nations shall be established in an agreement between the Organization and the United Nations as provided in Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter of the United Nations.

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\* No refugees or displaced persons who have finally and definitely, in complete freedom, and after receiving full knowledge of the facts including adequate information from the governments of their countries of origin, expressed valid objections to returning to their countries of origin and who do not come within the provisions of paragraph (d) below, shall be compelled to return to their country of origin. The future of such refugees or displaced persons shall become the concern of whatever international body may be recognized or established as a result of the report referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) above, except in cases where the government of the country where they are established has made an arrangement with this body to assume the complete cost of their maintenance and the responsibility for their protection.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Organization is open to Members of the United Nations. Membership is also open to any other peace-loving States, not Members of the United Nations, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, by a two-thirds majority vote of Members of the General Council present and voting, subject to the conditions of the agreement between the Organization and the United Nations approved pursuant to Article III of this Constitution.
2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 1, the members of the Organization shall be those States whose duly authorized representative sign this Constitution without reservation as to subsequent acceptance and those States which deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations their instruments of acceptance after their duly authorized representatives have signed this Constitution with such reservation.
3. Members of the Organization which are suspended from the exercise of the rights and privileges of Membership of the United Nations shall upon request of the latter, be suspended from the rights and privileges of this Organization.
4. Members of the Organization which are expelled from the United Nations shall automatically cease to be members of this Organization.
5. Members of the Organization which are not Members of the United Nations and which have persistently violated the principles of the Charter of the United Nations may with the approval of the General Assembly of the United Nations be suspended from the rights and privileges of the Organization, or expelled from its membership by the General Council.
6. A member of the Organization which has persistently violated the principles contained in the present Constitution, may be suspended from the rights and privileges of the Organization by the General Council, or, with the approval of the General Assembly of the United Nations, expelled from the Organization.
7. A member of the Organization undertakes to afford its general support to the work of the Organization.
8. Any member may at any time give written notice of withdrawal to the Chairman of the Executive Committee. Such notice shall take effect one year after the date of its receipt by the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE V

## ORGANS

1. There are established as the principal organs of the Organization: a General Council, an Executive Committee and a Secretariat.

## ARTICLE VI

## THE GENERAL COUNCIL

1. The ultimate policy-making body of the Organization shall be the General Council in which each member shall have one representative and such alternates and advisers as may be necessary. Each member shall have one vote in the General Council.

2. The General Council shall be convened in regular session not less than once a year by the Executive Committee provided, however, that for three years after the Organization comes into being the General Council shall be convened in regular session not less than twice a year. It may be convened in special session whenever the Executive Committee shall deem necessary; and it shall be convened in special session by the Director-General within thirty days after a request for such special session is received by the Director-General from one-third of the members of the Council.

3. At the opening meeting of each session of the General Council, the Chairman of the Executive Committee shall preside until the General Council has elected one of its members as Chairman for the Session.

4. The General Council shall thereupon proceed to elect from amongst its members a First Vice-Chairman and a Second Vice-Chairman, and such other officers as it may deem necessary.

## ARTICLE VII

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall perform such functions as may be delegated to it by the General Council. Between sessions of the General Council, the Executive Committee may make policy decisions of an emergency nature which shall be subject to the reconsideration by the Council.

2. The Executive Committee of the General Council shall consist of the

representatives of nine members of the Organization. Each member of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a two-year term by the General Council at a regular session of the Council. A member may continue to hold office on the Executive Committee during any such period as may intervene between the conclusion of its term of office and the first succeeding meeting of the General Council at which an election takes place. A member shall be at all times eligible for re-election to the Executive Committee. If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Executive Committee between two sessions of the General Council, the Executive Committee may fill the vacancy by itself appointing another member to hold office until the next meeting of the Council.

3. The Executive Committee shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman from among its members, the terms of office to be determined by the General Council.

4. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be convened:

(a) whenever the Chairman considers it necessary;

(b) in the case of a vacancy occurring in the Chairmanship, the Director-General shall convene a meeting at which the first item on the agenda shall be the election of a Chairman;

(c) whenever any delegate of a member of the Executive Committee shall request the convening of a meeting by a letter addressed to the Director-General, in which case the meeting shall be convened within ten days of the date of the receipt of the request unless a meeting has already been convened to take place within fourteen days of that date.

5. The executive Committee may in order to investigate the situation in the field, either as a body or through a delegation of its members, visit camps, hostels or assembly points within the control of the Organization, and may give instructions to the Director-General in consequence of the reports of such visits.

6. The Executive Committee shall receive the reports of the Director-General as provided in paragraph 7 of Article VIII of this Constitution and shall transmit these reports to the General Council without change but with such comments as the Executive Committee may consider.

appropriate. These reports and such comments shall be transmitted to all members of the General Council before its next regular session and shall be published. The Executive Committee may request the Director-General to submit such further reports as may be deemed necessary.

#### ARTICLE VIII

#### ADMINISTRATION

1. The Chief Administrative Officer of the Organization shall be the Director-General. He shall be responsible to the General Council and shall carry out the administrative and executive functions of the Organization in accordance with the decisions of the General Council or of the Executive Committee.
2. The Director-General shall be nominated by the Executive Committee and appointed by the General Council. If no person acceptable to the General Council is nominated by the Executive Committee, the General Council may proceed to appoint a person who has not been nominated by the Committee. When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Director-General the Executive Committee may appoint an Acting Director-General to assume all the duties and functions of the office until a Director-General can be appointed by the General Council.
3. The Director-General shall serve under a contract which shall be signed on behalf of the Organization by the Chairman of the Executive Committee and it shall be a term of such contract that six months' notice of termination can be given on either side. In exceptional circumstances, the Executive Committee, subject to subsequent confirmation by the General Council, has the power to relieve the Director-General of his duties, by a two-thirds majority vote of the members, if in the Committee's opinion his conduct is such as to warrant such action.
4. The staff of the Organization shall be appointed by the Director-General under regulations to be established by the General Council.
5. The Director-General shall be present or be represented by one of his subordinate officers, at all meetings of the General Council, of the Executive

Committee and of all other committees and sub-committees. He or his representative may participate in any such meeting but shall have no vote.

6. (a) The Director-General shall prepare at the end of each half-year period a report on the work of the Organization. The report prepared at the end of each alternate period of six months shall relate to the work of the Organization during the preceding year and shall give a full account of the activities of the Organization during that period. These reports shall be submitted to the Executive Committee which shall transmit them to the General Council together with any comments thereon as provided by paragraph 6 of Article VI of this Constitution.

(b) At every special session of the General Council the Director-General shall present a statement of the work of the Organization since the last meeting.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### STAFF

1. The paramount consideration in the employment of the staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. A further consideration in the employment of the staff shall be adherence to the principles laid down in the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 12 February 1946 regarding the problem of refugees. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

2. No person shall be employed by the Organization who is excluded under Part II, other than paragraph (5) of Annex I to this Constitution from becoming the concern of the Organization.



3. In the performance of their duties the Director-General and the staff shall not seek or receive instruction from any Government or from any other authority external to the Organization. They shall refrain from any action which might reflect on their position as international officials responsible only to the Organization. Each member of the Organization undertakes to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Director-General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

#### ARTICLE X

##### FINANCE

1. The Director-General shall submit to the General Council an annual budget, covering the necessary administrative, operational, and large-scale re-settlement expenditures of the Organization, and from time to time such supplementary budgets as may be required. Upon final approval of a budget by the General Council the total under each of these three headings, to wit, "administrative", "operational", and "large-scale resettlement", shall be allocated to the members in proportions for each heading to be determined from time to time by a two-thirds majority vote of the members of the General Council present and voting.

2. Each member [Government] undertakes to contribute promptly to the Organization [promptly] its share of the administrative expenses as determined and allocated under paragraph 1 above.

3. Each member [Government] shall contribute to the operational and large-scale re-settlement expenditures as determined and allocated under paragraph 1 above, subject to the requirements of the constitutional procedure of such [Government] member.

4. The administrative budget of the Organization shall be submitted annually to the General Assembly of the United Nations for such review and recommendations as the General Assembly may deem appropriate. The agreement under which the Organization shall be [related to] brought into relationship

with the United Nations under Article III [above] of this Constitution may provide, inter alia, for the approval of the administrative budget of the Organization by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

5. Without prejudice to the provisions concerning supplementary budgets in paragraph 1 above, the following exceptional arrangements shall apply in respect of the financial year in which this Constitution comes into force:

(a) the budget shall be the provisional budget set forth in Annex II to this Constitution; and

(b) the amounts to be contributed by the members [Governments] shall be in the proportions set forth in Annex II to this Constitution.]

#### ARTICLE XI

##### HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER OFFICES

1. The Organization shall establish its headquarters at Paris, and all meetings of the General Council and the Executive Committee shall be held at this headquarters, unless a majority of the members of the General Council or the Executive Committee have agreed, at a previous meeting or by correspondence with the Director-General, to meet elsewhere.

2. The Executive Committee may establish such regional and other offices and representations as may be necessary.

3. All offices and representations shall be established only with the consent of the government in authority in the place of its establishment.

#### ARTICLE XII

##### PROCEDURE

1. The General Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure, following in general the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, wherever appropriate and with such modifications as the General Council shall deem desirable. The Executive Committee shall regulate its own procedure subject to any decisions of the General Council in respect thereto.

2. Unless otherwise provided in the Constitution or by action of the General Council, motions shall be carried by simple majority of the members present and

voting in the General Council and the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE XIII

##### STATUS, IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES

1. The Organization shall enjoy in the territory of each of its members such legal capacity as may be necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfillment of its objectives.
2. (a) The Organization shall enjoy in the territory of each of its members such privileges and immunities as may be necessary for the exercises of its functions and the fulfillment of its objectives.  
(b) Representatives of members, officials, and administrative personnel of the organization shall similarly enjoy such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with the Organization.
3. Such legal status, privileges, and immunities shall be defined in an agreement to be prepared after consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

#### ARTICLE XIV

##### RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. Subject to the provisions of the agreement to be negotiated with the United Nations pursuant to Article III of this Constitution, the Organization may establish such effective relationships as may be desirable with other international organizations.
2. The Organization may assume part of or all the functions and acquire part of or all the resources, assets, and liabilities of any inter-governmental Organization or agency the purposes and functions of which lie within the scope of the organization. Such action may be taken either through mutually acceptable arrangements with the competent authorities of such organizations or agencies or pursuant to authority conferred upon the Organization by international convention or agreement.

## ARTICLE XV

### AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

Texts of proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be communicated by the Director-General to Members at least three months in advance of their consideration by the General Council. Amendments shall come into effect when adopted by a two-thirds majority of the Members of the General Council present and voting and accepted by two-thirds of the Members in accordance with their respective constitutional processes, provided, however, that amendments involving new obligation for Members shall come into force in respect of each Member only on acceptance by it.

"1. The English, French, texts of this Constitution shall be regarded as equally authentic.

2. Subject to the provisions of Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations and of Chapter II of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the Organization may request the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion on any legal question arising within the competence of the Organization.

## ARTICLE XVI

### ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. (a) States may become parties to this Constitution by
  - (i) signature without reservation as to approval;
  - (ii) signature subject to approval followed by acceptance;
  - (iii) acceptance.(b) Acceptance shall be effected by the deposit of a formal instrument with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
2. This Constitution shall come into force when fifteen states have become parties to it in accordance with the provisions of Article IV.
3. In accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the United Nations will register this Constitution, when it has been signed, without reservation as to approval, on behalf of one state

or upon deposit of the first instrument of acceptance.

4. The Secretary-General of the United Nations will inform states, parties to this Constitution, of the date when it has come into force; he will also inform them of the dates when other states have become parties to this Constitution.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the Undersigned, duly authorized for that purpose, have signed this Constitution.

Done in the City of New York this day of 1946, in a single copy in the English, French, Russian, Chinese and Spanish languages. The original texts shall be deposited in the Archives of the United Nations. The Secretary-General of the United Nations will send certified copies of the texts of each of the signatory Governments and, upon the coming into force of the Constitution and the election of a Director General, to the Director-General of the Organization."

## ANNEX I

### DEFINITIONS

#### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. The following general principles constitute an integral part of the definitions as laid down in Part I and II below.

(a) The main object of the Organization will be to bring about a rapid and positive solution of the problem of bona fide refugees and displaced persons, which shall be just and equitable to all concerned.

(b) The main task concerning displaced persons is to encourage and assist in every way possible their early return to their countries of origin, having regard to the principles laid down in paragraph (c) (ii) of the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 12 February 1946 regarding the problem of refugees.

(c) As laid down in the Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 16 February 1946, no international assistance should be given to traitors, quislings, and war criminals, and nothing should be done to prevent in any way their surrender and punishment.

(d) It should be the concern of the Organization to ensure that its assistance is not exploited in order to encourage subversive or hostile activities directed against the government of any of the United Nations.

(e) It should be the concern of the Organization to ensure that its assistance is not exploited by persons in the case of whom it is clear that they are unwilling to return to their countries of origin because they prefer idleness to facing the hardships of helping in the reconstruction of their countries.

(f) On the other hand it should equally be the concern of the Organization to ensure that no bona fide and deserving refugee or displaced person is deprived of such assistance as it may be in a position to offer.

(g) The Organization should endeavour to carry out its functions in

defined in Section B below, who is outside of his country of nationality or former habitual residence, and who, as a result of events subsequent to the outbreak of the Second World War, is unable or unwilling to avail himself of the protection of the Government of his country of nationality or former nationality.

3. Subject to the provisions of Section D and of Part II below, the term "refugee" also applies to persons of Jewish origin and to foreigners or stateless persons who, having resided in Germany or Austria, were victims of Nazi persecution and who were detained in or were obliged to flee from and were subsequently returned to, one of those countries as a result of enemy action, or of war circumstances, and who have not yet been firmly resettled therein.

"The term 'refugee' also applies to war orphans or unaccompanied children who are outside their countries of origin. Such children shall be given all possible priority assistance and all measures shall be taken for the repatriation of those whose nationality has been determined to their countries of origin, being Members of the United Nations".

#### SECTION B. DEFINITION OF DISPLACED PERSONS

The term "Displaced Person" applies to a person who, as a result of the actions of the authorities of the regimes mentioned in Part I, Section A. paragraph 1 (a) has been deported from, or has been obliged to leave, his country of nationality or of former habitual residence, such as persons who were compelled to undertake forced labour or who were deported for racial, religious or political reasons. Displaced persons whom the new international body cannot repatriate will only fall within its mandate subject to the provisions of Sections C and D of Part I and to the provisions of Part II below. If the reasons for their displacement have ceased to exist, they should be repatriated as soon as possible in accordance with Article II, 1 (a) of the proposed Constitution and subject to the provision of paragraph (c), sub-paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of the General Assembly Resolution of 12 February 1946.

SECTION C. CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH "REFUGEES" AND "DISPLACED PERSONS" WILL BECOME THE CONCERN OF THE ORGANIZATION

1. In the case of all the above categories except those mentioned in Section A, paragraphs 1 (b) and 3 above, persons will become the concern of the Organization in the sense of the Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 16 February 1946 if they can be repatriated, and the help of the Organization is required in order to provide for their repatriation, or if they are unable to return to their countries of nationality or former habitual residence or if they have definitely, in complete freedom, and after receiving full knowledge of the facts, including adequate information from the governments of their countries of nationality or former habitual residence, expressed valid objections to returning to those countries:

(a) The following shall be considered as valid objections:

(i) persecution, or fear, based on reasonable grounds (French: fondee, Russian: oboznovany), of persecution because of race, religion, nationality or political opinions, provided these opinions are not in conflict with the principles of the United Nations, as laid down in the preamble of the Charter of the United Nations;

(ii) objections of a political nature judged by the Organization to be "valid", as contemplated in paragraph 3 (a) of the Report of the Third Committee of the General Assembly as adopted by the Assembly on 14 February 1946.\*

(iii) in the case of persons falling within the category mentioned in Section A, paragraphs 1 (a) and 1 (c) compelling family reasons arising out of previous persecution, or compelling reasons of infirmity or illness.

(b) The following shall be considered adequate information: -  
Information regarding conditions in the countries of origin of

\* "in answering the delegate for Belgium, the Chairman stated that it was implied that the international body would judge what were, or what were not, "valid objections"; and that such objections clearly might be of a political nature.



refugees and displaced persons, supplied to them directly by the representatives of these countries. In exceptional cases information supplied in full and without hindrance by other persons, who are known for their impartiality and honesty and well acquainted with conditions in the countries of origin of refugees, against whom the Governments concerned or their representatives have no objections.

2. In the case of all refugees falling within the terms of Section A, paragraph 1 (b), persons will become the concern of the Organization in the sense of the Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations on 16 February 1946, so long as the Falangist regime in Spain continues. Should that regime be replaced by a democratic regime they will have to produce valid objections to returning to Spain corresponding to those indicated in paragraph 1 (a) above.

SECTION D. CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS WILL CEASE TO BE THE CONCERN OF THE ORGANIZATION

Refugees or displaced persons will cease to be the concern of the Organization:

- (a) When they have returned to the countries of their nationality in the United Nations territory, unless their former habitual residence to which they wish to return is outside their country of nationality; or
- (b) When they have acquired a new nationality; or
- (c) When they have, in the determination of the Organization become otherwise firmly established; or
- (d) When they have unreasonably refused to accept the proposals of the Organization for their resettlement;
- (e) When they are making no substantial effort towards earning their living when it is possible for them to do so, or when they are exploiting the assistance of the Organization.

PART II

Persons who will not be the concern  
of the Organization.

1. War criminals, quislings and traitors.
2. Any other person who can be shown:
  - (a) to have assisted the enemy in persecuting the civil populations of countries, Members of the United Nations; or
  - (b) to have voluntarily assisted the enemy forces since the outbreak of the Second World War in their operations against the United Nations, unless such assistance was purely humanitarian and non-military.
3. Ordinary criminals (Russian: ugolovny) who are extraditable by treaty.
4. Persons of German ethnic origin whether German nationals or members of German minorities in other countries who:
  - (a) have been or may be transferred to Germany from other countries;
  - (b) have been, during the Second World War, evacuated from Germany to other countries;
  - (c) have fled from, or into, Germany, or from their places of residence into countries other than Germany in order to avoid falling into the hands of Allied Armies.
5. Persons who are in receipt of financial support and protection from their country of nationality, unless their country of nationality requests international assistance for them.
6. Persons who, since the end of hostilities in the Second World War:
  - (a) have participated in any organization having as one of its purposes the overthrow by armed force of the Government of their country of origin, being a member of the United Nations, or the overthrow by armed force of the Government of any other Member of the United Nations, or have participated in any terrorist organization;
  - (b) have become leaders of movements hostile to the Government of their country of origin being a member of the United Nations or sponsors of movements encouraging refugees not to return to their country of origin.

ANNEX II

BUDGET AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FIRST FINANCIAL YEAR .

1. The Provisional budget for the first financial year shall be a sum of \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. dollars for administrative expenses and a sum of \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. dollars for operational expenses. Any unspent balance under either heading shall be carried over to the corresponding heading as a credit in the budget of the next financial year.

2. These sums shall be contributed by the members [[Governments]] in proportions as follows:

[[Note: It is contemplated that the budgets for the first year and the scales of contributions are to be prepared by the Committee on Finances.]]