

RELIEF NEEDS AFTER THE TERMINATION OF UNRRA
(UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION)

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernesto SANJINES (BOLIVIA)

1. In accordance with the resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-first plenary meeting on 1 February 1946, the General Assembly received an extensive report from the Director-General of UNRRA on the progress made towards economic rehabilitation in the countries being assisted by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (document A/89).
2. The General Assembly has also received a recommendation from the Economic and Social Council transmitting, with its endorsement, the resolution adopted by the UNRRA Council at its Fifth Session urging appropriate action by the General Assembly on the question of relief needs in 1947 (document A/121).
3. The General Assembly, at its forty-sixth plenary meeting on 31 October 1946, decided to refer this question, which appeared as the second part of Item 20 of its agenda, to the Second Committee for consideration.
4. The Committee considered the report (document A/89) and the proposals (document A/C.2/38) presented by the Director-General of UNRRA, who participated in the discussions on the invitation of the Committee. Many delegations expressed their points of view on the question. Draft resolutions and amendments were submitted formally by the delegations of Brazil (document A/C.2/56), Denmark (document A/C.2/57), Norway (document A/C.2/58), United States of America (document A/C.2/64). A drafting

/Sub-Committee

Sub-Committee, composed of representatives of nineteen countries, was established to prepare a single draft resolution. It studied the above documents, and received an amendment from the delegation of Brazil (document A/C.2/72) and a statement from the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (document A/C.2/90). After considerable discussion the Sub-Committee was unable to reach agreement, and instructed its Chairman to report this fact to the Second Committee with an account of the discussions.

5. The Second Committee considered the report from the Chairman of the Sub-Committee (document A/C.2/85). In the subsequent discussion, compromise proposals and amendments were submitted by the Director-General of UNRRA (document A/C.2/87) by the delegations of Brazil, United Kingdom and United States of America, jointly (documents A/C.2/86 and A/C.2/86/Rev.1), Canada (document A/C.2/96), Norway (document A/C.2/95 and A/C.2/95/Rev.1) and Poland (document A/C.2/94). On the basis of these various proposals a resolution was unanimously adopted. The representative of Yugoslavia reserved the position of his Government on the entire resolution.

6. The Second Committee recommends the adoption by the General Assembly of the following resolution:

RELIEF NEEDS AFTER THE TERMINATION OF UNRRA

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING NOTE of the UNRRA Council Resolution (No. 100)

of 16 August 1946, and of the related resolution adopted

by the Economic and Social Council of 3 October 1946;

RECOGNIZING that certain countries will need

financial assistance in 1947 to provide for imports of

food and other basic essentials of life;

/TAKING NOTE

TAKING NOTE that this need for assistance may not, in all cases, be entirely met by international institutions and other public and private agencies available for this purpose;

RECOGNIZING that, in some countries, if such assistance is not provided, there will be hunger, privation and suffering during the winter, spring and early summer of next year;

TAKING NOTE of the urgent necessity of meeting this residual relief need promptly, and of the expressed willingness of Members of the United Nations to do their part in attaining this end;

RECOGNIZING the desirability of meeting this need without wasteful duplication of effort;

CONSIDERING that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of their common ends, including international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic and humanitarian character;

REAFFIRMING the principle that at no time should relief supplies be used as a political weapon, and that no discrimination should be made in the distribution of relief supplies because of race, creed, or political belief;

1. ESTABLISHES a Special Technical Committee whose functions shall be:

(a) to study the minimum import requirements of the basic essentials of life, particularly food and supplies for agricultural production of countries which the Committee believes might require assistance in the prevention of suffering or of economic retrogression which threatens the supply of these basic essentials;

(b) to survey the means available to each country concerned to finance such imports;

(c) to report concerning the amount of financial assistance which it believes may be required in the light of (a) and

(b) above.

2. DECIDES that the Committee shall consist of ten experts in the field of finance and foreign trade to be designated by the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Poland, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to serve in their individual capacities and not as representatives of the Governments by which they are designated; and urges each Government to select a person of outstanding competence to serve on the Committee.
3. DIRECTS the Secretary-General to transmit to the Committee the information called for in the third paragraph of the above-mentioned resolution of the Economic and Social Council.
4. DIRECTS the Committee to submit its report to the Secretary-General for submission to Member Governments as soon as possible, but in any event not later than 15 January 1947.
5. CALLS UPON all Members of the United Nations to assist in the furnishing of relief when needed and where needed during the ensuing year, by developing their respective programmes with the greatest possible speed and, in appropriate cases, by extending special credit facilities to the needy countries.
6. RECOMMENDS that all Members of the United Nations keep the Secretary-General informed concerning their plans for assisting in meeting relief needs in 1947, and concerning the progress of their relief activities in this respect.
7. DIRECTS the Secretary-General
 - (a) to make available to all Members of the United Nations the information received pursuant to paragraph 6 above, in order that this information, together with that transmitted pursuant to paragraph 4 above, may be used by the Members of the United Nations to facilitate the co-ordination, without wasteful duplication of effort, of their respective relief programmes and activities;

(b) to facilitate informal consultation among Governments concerning their relief plans and programmes; and to arrange for such consultation among Governments whenever, in his opinion, the purpose of this resolution would be promoted thereby;

(c) to furnish, within the limitations of available staff and funds, such technical assistance in respect of the 1947 relief programme as Governments may request.

8. (a) DIRECTS the Secretary-General to consider the ways and means of collecting and utilizing contributions, from persons, organizations and peoples all over the world, equivalent to the earnings of one day's work, for the purpose of helping to meet relief needs during 1947; and to report on the results of such consideration to Member Governments and to the Economic and Social Council at the earliest possible date;

(b) REQUESTS the Economic and Social Council to study the report made by the Secretary-General and to take whatever action it may deem appropriate in regard to this matter.

9. DIRECTS the Secretary-General to report at each session of the Economic and Social Council on the activities being carried out under this Resolution.
