



Eighth session
Agenda item 19

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF
AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE
NEAR EAST

Report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. W.D. Forsyth (Australia)

1. The General Assembly, on 8 December 1949, adopted resolution 302 (IV) establishing the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The resolution requested the Director of the Agency to submit an annual report and such other reports as the Agency might wish to bring to the attention of Members of the United Nations, or its appropriate organs.
2. The General Assembly, at its 435th meeting on 17 September 1953, decided to include the report of the Director of UNRWA in its agenda, and to refer it to the Ad Hoc Political Committee for consideration and report.
3. The Acting Director of UNRWA submitted his report to the General Assembly in October 1953. This annual report, the third of the series, covers the period 1 July 1952 to 30 June 1953^{1/}. On 26 October 1953 the Acting Director and the Agency's Advisory Commission submitted a joint report (A/2470/Add.1) containing recommendations for the future work of the Agency.
4. The Ad Hoc Political Committee considered the item at its 23rd to 30th meetings between 2 and 12 November 1953.

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 12, document A/2470. For reports covering the periods 1 May 1950 to 30 June 1951 and 1 July 1951 to 30 June 1952 respectively, see Ibid., Sixth Session, Supplements Nos. 16 and 16A (documents A/1905 and Add.1) and Ibid., Seventh Session, Supplements Nos. 13 and 13A (documents A/2171 and Add.1).

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 2 November 1953, the Acting Director of UNRWA, at the invitation of the Committee, made a statement regarding his report and the joint report.
6. At the 25th meeting on 5 November, France, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America introduced a joint draft resolution (A/AC.72/L.12).
7. After a general discussion, the Committee, at the 30th meeting on 12 November, proceeded to vote on the above joint draft resolution. It was adopted by 46 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.
8. The Ad Hoc Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

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A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, 393 (V) of 2 December 1950, 513 (VI) of 26 January 1952 and 614 (VII) of 6 November 1952,

Having examined the report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East^{1/} and the special report of the Director and the Advisory Commission of that Agency,^{2/}

Noting that programme agreements envisaging the commitment of approximately \$120 million have been signed by UNRWA with the governments of several Near Eastern countries, pursuant to the plan endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 513 (VI), but that expectations as regards the execution of the projects programme have not been realized,

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 12, document A/2470.

2/ A/2470/Add.1.

Noting also that the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern,

1. Decides, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III), or to the provisions of paragraph 4 of resolution 393 (V), that the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East shall be extended until 30 June 1955, and that its programme shall be again subject to review at the ninth session of the General Assembly;

2. Authorizes the Agency to adopt a budget for relief amounting to \$24.8 million for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1954, subject to such adjustments as may be attributable to refugee employment on projects, or as may be necessary to maintain adequate standards, and to adopt a provisional budget of \$18 million for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955;

3. Considers that the projects fund previously authorized by the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 513 (VI) should be maintained at \$200 million until 30 June 1955, and urges UNRWA and the governments of the Near Eastern countries concerned to continue to seek acceptable projects to enable the fund to be utilized for the purposes for which it is intended;

4. Requests the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds to seek the funds required to meet the current needs of the relief programmes and to invite governments to take into account the need for the additional pledges which will be required to meet the total programme now established at \$292.8 million.

B

The General Assembly,

Having noted that the present membership of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, established pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, is composed of representatives of Egypt, France, Jordan, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America,

Noting further that it is in the general interest that other contributing countries join the Advisory Commission,

Authorizes the Advisory Commission to increase its membership by not more than two additional members.
