

"The High Commissioner should engage in such additional activities, including repatriation and resettlement activities, as the General Assembly may determine."

That text was adopted by 14 votes to 6, with 26 abstentions.

54. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the second United Kingdom amendment (A/C.3/L.32), which proposed that paragraph 7 of the annex (formerly paragraph 5) should be replaced by the following text:

"7. The High Commissioner should report to the United Nations periodically as determined by the General Assembly."

That amendment was adopted by 18 votes to 5, with 22 abstentions.

55. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the French variant for paragraph 9 (formerly paragraph 7) of the annex (A/C.3/L.29), as amended by the representative of Lebanon (262nd meeting, paragraph 33). The text read:

"9. The High Commissioner should be elected by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Secretary-General . . ."

That text was adopted by 19 votes to 6, with 21 abstentions.

56. The CHAIRMAN put the whole of paragraph 9 (formerly paragraph 7), as amended, to the vote.

Paragraph 9, as amended, was adopted by 19 votes to 10, with 15 abstentions.

57. The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the joint draft resolution as a whole, as amended by the preceding votes.

58. Mr. DEMCHENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) explained that he would vote against the joint draft resolution because, in his opinion, it had been expressly prepared by the representatives of France, the United States and the United Kingdom in order to carry out their policy of undermining repatriation and recruiting cheap labour from among the refugees. He reiterated his opinion that the only proper solution to the problem would be to create favourable conditions for repatriation and said it was for that reason that he had supported the Byelorussian draft resolution.

59. Mr. BOKHARI (Pakistan) said that he would be obliged to vote against the joint draft resolution for the simple reason that his country, faced

as it was with a vast refugee problem of its own, could ill afford to contribute towards an organization from which it seemed unlikely to benefit.

60. Mr. PENTEADO (Brazil), Mr. DEDIJER (Yugoslavia) and Mrs. KRIPALANI (India) said that they would vote against the joint draft resolution for the reasons they had given in earlier statements.

61. Mrs. AFNAN (Iraq) explained that she would vote against the joint draft resolution because its provisions were not wide enough to include all refugees and because she thought that the definition of the term "refugee" should be settled before the Assembly decided on the principle of establishing a High Commissioner's Office.

62. Mr. ALAMAHEYOU (Ethiopia) said that, although his country wished to co-operate in assistance to refugees, he would be obliged to abstain from voting on the joint draft resolution because it did not explain the financial implications or give a clear definition of the field of action of the High Commissioner.

63. Mr. BOKHARI (Pakistan) requested that the vote be taken by roll-call.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Lebanon, having been drawn by lot by the Chairman, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Israel.

Against: Pakistan, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Yugoslavia, Argentina, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, India, Iraq.

Abstaining: Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Yemen, Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran.

The joint draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by 24 votes to 12, with 10 abstentions.

64. The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the additional draft resolution submitted by the French delegation (A/C.3/L.27).

The draft resolution was adopted by 18 votes to 8, with 18 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.

TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York, on Friday, 18 November 1949, at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Carlos E. STOLK (Venezuela).

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund: (a) report of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund—(b) United Nations Appeal for Children (A/1006 and E/1406¹)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Committee to begin the discussion of item 31

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fourth Year, Ninth Session, Supplement No. 16.*

of the agenda of the General Assembly regarding the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and the United Nations Appeal for Children (A/1006 and E/1406).

2. Mr. RAJCHMAN (Chairman of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) introduced two reports on the work carried out by the Fund from the time it was set up. The first, which was submitted to the ninth session of the Economic and Social Council, referred to the period from 11 December 1946 to 1 July 1949 (E/1046); the

second report covered the Fund's activities from the latter date until the beginning of November 1949 and stated the decisions reached by the Executive Board at its meetings at Lake Success on 2, 4 and 5 November 1949.¹

3. Three years previously, the Third Committee had elected twenty-five States from among its members to participate with the Executive Director of UNICEF in the administration of the Fund which had just been organized to help needy children. Switzerland was later invited to take part in that work. Mr. Rajchman was happy to be able to give an account of the work which had been accomplished.

4. Funds collected up to date amounted to 141,500,000 dollars. Contributions amounting to 98,250,000 dollars had been received from thirty-six Governments. The residual assets of UNRRA, which had been transferred to UNICEF, amounted to 31,500,000 dollars. Public donations, collected mainly through the United Nations Appeal for Children, amounted to 11,750,000 dollars.

5. Various Governments had contributed sums ranging from a few thousand to over 71 million dollars; twenty-three Governments had each contributed more than 100,000 dollars. The United States of America and Australia had contributed the largest shares in absolute figures, but if public collections were also taken into account, Iceland headed the list as it had contributed more than 4 dollars *per capita*. By geographical area the division was as follows: North America, 78,700,000 dollars; Oceania (Australia and New Zealand), 14,500,000 dollars; Europe, 11,500,000 dollars; Africa, 1,900,000 dollars; Latin America, 1,500,000 dollars; the Far East, 280,000 dollars; the Middle East, 25,000 dollars. The countries receiving aid from the Fund contributed over 6 million dollars.

6. He pointed out that the sums collected were not endowments, they were spent as soon as they were received, so that the net reserve of the Fund was currently only 400,000 dollars. Nevertheless, it was possible for the Executive Board to make new allocations each time it met.

7. The sums at the disposal of the Fund were allocated in accordance with a priority system adopted three years previously by the General Assembly on the unanimous recommendation of the Third Committee.² Children of countries which were victims of aggression were the first to benefit; secondly, the children of countries which were receiving help from UNRRA in 1946; thirdly, funds were set aside for health programmes implemented according to priority for children of countries which had been victims of aggression.

8. In accordance with the recommendations of the Third Committee, which the General Assembly had unanimously approved three years previously, those sums were used, in the following order, for the purchase of food, for medical supplies, therapeutic equipment and various materials, and for the training of the necessary staff to enable the programme to be put into operation. Of the 141,500,000 dollars received about 77,000,000 dollars had been spent for the purchase of food, 45 million for the purchase of equipment and various supplies, 1,800,000 on training, 11,000,000 on freight, 5,600,000 on ad-

ministration. Those figures represented the following percentages: 54.6 per cent for food, 32.2 per cent for various supplies and equipment, 1.2 per cent for training, 8 per cent for freight and 4 per cent for administration. Mr. Rajchman stressed the fact that administrative expenses were small.

9. When it was considered that the Fund had in three years purchased supplies amounting to 123 million dollars, that it had already despatched 160,000 tons of food and supplies, and had 120,000 tons still to send, it might be thought that such figures were very large. It should not be forgotten, however, that all the Fund had been able to do in three years was to load fifty-five ships of 5,000 tons, on the average, or three ships every two months for fifty-three countries in Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, Asia and Latin America. Means and consequently results were not commensurate with the needs.

10. Mr. Rajchman then analysed the principles followed in the work carried out by the Fund. The first and absolute principle was that of non-discrimination. The Fund then endeavoured to obtain supplies which were not available locally for the implementation of their programmes of child welfare. It acted as trustee on behalf of both donor and recipient. The carrying out of the operations was entrusted, however, to the Governments of the countries receiving assistance, which in turn acted as trustees for the distribution of the supplies and had to account for the goods and the services placed at their disposal. Such a method helped to ensure a rapid and economical handling of the questions dealt with by the Fund, while it strengthened at the same time the child health services in the country receiving assistance. The importance of the latter principle would be more easily understood when it was realized that merely for European countries helped by the Fund, the distribution of food was carried out through 52,400 centres. Help was supplied by the Fund as much as possible with a view to producing lasting results, that was to say, that the Fund endeavoured to make a long-term contribution to child welfare. The degree of urgency was the predominant factor of the programme, but the help supplied by the Fund was used as much as possible to meet immediate needs in such a way that programmes in which it was currently participating could in time effectively be taken over by the countries assisted, and extended to a larger number of children. Finally, the Fund relied as far as possible on the United Nations Secretariat and the appropriate specialized agencies for any technical assistance and advice which should come from international sources.

11. The report was a faithful indication of the range of the work undertaken. Of 62 million European children, about 5 million belonging to 14 countries were receiving and would continue to receive once a day until 15 May 1950, a meagre supplementary meal of skimmed milk, fat, cod-liver oil and, in some countries, a little fish and meat, equivalent to 200 or 300 calories altogether. That daily ration was intended to complete the meals supplied to children in the schools and other institutions under national feeding programmes. He stressed the supplementary nature

¹ See Document E/ICEF/136.

² See *Resolution adopted by the General Assembly during the second part of its first session*, No. 57 (I).

of the assistance given by UNICEF. Only a very small proportion of the children aided directly by Governments received that assistance. The same remark applied to all the other aspects of the programme of material and child welfare. The expenses of the Fund could not be compared with the expenses incurred by Governments. The Fund restricted itself to obtaining supplies which were not produced locally, and did not always succeed in satisfying all needs. But its help was none the less necessary and sought after. It always aimed at supplementing the efforts made by Governments and at ensuring that national child welfare programmes received priority treatment by Governments.

12. Anti-tuberculosis vaccination had been an outstanding example in that connexion. Owing to the generous support of the Scandinavian countries and especially of Denmark, it had been possible to start a mass campaign of vaccination against tuberculosis in Europe. That programme, which had been started in July 1948, had resulted in the examination of 11 million children and the vaccination of more than 6 million. Future prospects were even more interesting because as the project developed the beneficiary countries were helped to carry out such preventive work themselves.

13. Another investment in the future was the provision of specialized equipment for pasteurization of milk and processing of powdered milk so as to facilitate distribution, under safe conditions, in regions where the necessary means of preservation were not available. That measure would contribute greatly to the campaign against infant mortality.

14. Mr. Rajchman also quoted the example of the provision of insecticides, sprayers and other material required for the eradication of insects, including the malaria mosquito; he also referred to the supply of penicillin and other medical products for the treatment of syphilis in mothers and children.

15. The report showed that the same policy was being adapted to Asia and Latin America. Thus eighteen countries in Asia had received allocations. If the greater part of the funds provided had not yet been utilized, it was because of the delicate and often lengthy discussions which had to be carried out with the Governments concerned in order to determine what measures best corresponded to their needs. The activities envisaged would continue beyond 1950. Apart from the establishment of a number of feeding centres, the main contribution of the Fund consisted in shipping equipment for demonstration of methods of combating infantile diseases. In such countries professional training was a priority problem because of the shortage of trained personnel. Negotiations were taking place with Governments with a view to setting up an international training centre on Indian territory and also encouraging professional training on a national scale.

16. As regards Latin America, fifteen countries had asked for assistance from the Fund; the programme there consisted of setting up demonstration feeding-centres, but more particularly supplying material required for the fight against infantile disease.

17. In the Middle East the Fund was assisting four countries, in addition to the refugees. A BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccination campaign was

under way in Egypt, the Lebanon, Syria and Israel. The last country had also asked for milk and medical supplies. As regards refugees, more than half a million women and children from military occupied zones were sure of receiving food, medical supplies and BCG vaccine until March 1950. In North Africa a mass vaccination campaign was in full swing in Morocco and another had been started the previous month in Tunisia.

18. Mr. Rajchman reminded the Committee of the help given by the Fund to the victims of the tragic earthquake in Ecuador. The Fund had immediately promised to supply milk, fats, blankets and soap to the children affected, for a period of five months. The Executive Board had recently allocated 140,000 dollars to extend that period to ten months.

19. The examples given did not exhaust the list of services provided by the Fund. Nevertheless, they gave some idea of the extent of the Fund's activities in the fifty-three countries where it was operating.

20. There remained the third task assigned to the Fund by the General Assembly, that of providing facilities for training the personnel required if national child welfare programmes were to be properly implemented. For two years, France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Belgium and the Netherlands had been providing courses in social pediatrics. Such collective training, which had proved very useful, consisted of lectures, observations and exchange of personal experience, participated in by people who would later, in their respective countries, supervise the institution and development of various child welfare programmes.

21. Desirous of consolidating the experience gained, France had offered facilities to the Fund for an international centre in Paris for training and research on child problems. That centre would work in close co-operation with the World Health Organization. Arrangements had been made for a preliminary period of three years. The centre would, the following year, take over responsibility for the running of courses in social pediatrics and the testing of BCG vaccines; it would also train specialized personnel in physiology and child nutrition, would institute research in those fields, and arrange for the exchange of information between the various countries and also for exhibitions showing the progress achieved in child welfare.

22. The Executive Board had made allocations for the setting up of the centre, to which the French Government was also making a very considerable contribution. It was also proposed to contribute to the development or setting up of national centres along similar lines.

23. Such activities showed that the third task assigned to the Fund by the General Assembly was being met effectively and at low cost.

24. Mr. Rajchman then turned to the methods by which decisions of the Fund were taken. He pointed out that it could hardly be hoped that those decisions, dealing with material assistance to fifty-three countries, should always be unanimous. In most cases they were, but it would be idle to pretend that the allocations were always to everyone's liking. The Board always proceeded by the rule of majority, however, without losing

sight of the rights of the interested parties, that is, those Governments which had concluded an agreement with the Fund. Under such an agreement the Fund on the one hand undertook to provide a specific quantity of supplies for the implementation of a mutually agreed programme, while the receiving Governments, on the other hand, agreed to assume certain obligations regarding the distribution of those supplies and agreed to facilitate observation work carried out by representatives of the Fund.

25. In case of disagreement as to the interpretation of the terms of the contract, the matter could be referred to the Programme Committee of the Executive Board. That committee was composed of ten members of the Executive Board under the chairmanship of the representative of Canada; the Chairman of the Board attended the meetings without the right of vote.

26. The Programme Committee had been asked to intervene for the first time during the last session of the Executive Board. In the first case the Board had, by a majority, declined to enter into negotiations with a receiving Government which was asking the Fund to make periodic visits of inspection instead of sending an observing mission to its territory. The Board had, moreover, by a majority, decided to reallocate to the general fund the balance of the allocation still remaining to the credit of the Government in question. In the second case, where supplies for a feeding programme in a country receiving assistance from the Fund had ceased since the month of April, the Fund had decided, while maintaining the allocations to the country until May 1950, not to resume shipments until the Government concerned had agreed to admit into its territory a subordinate observer in addition to the chief of mission already appointed.

27. Mr. Rajchman said he regretted very much that the Board should have had to discuss and vote upon such matters.

28. The Executive Director had stated that the observation methods used were very flexible. In some very large countries a single resident representative covered a territory sometimes larger than Europe. In other areas, two or three countries were combined under one chief of mission. For the first time, however, the Board had been divided in its opinion as to how the principle of flexibility should be applied in practice in the various areas of the Fund's operations.

29. It was of paramount concern to all that the assistance which the Executive Board had given to countries on the basis of the needs of their children, after long and minute scrutiny and on the recommendation of the Executive Director, should not be interrupted. There was certainly no member of the Board who would not agree to that. Mr. Rajchman therefore hoped that shipments of food and supplies for children in the countries in question would be resumed in the very near future.

30. Mr. Rajchman went on to discuss the prospects for the future. He pointed out that at its July session the Executive Board, while recognizing that the Fund had been established to meet urgent post-war needs, had rightly considered that those needs would not cease when its operations came to an end and that it was therefore necessary to provide for the continuance of

its programmes by the Governments concerned. At its previous session the Board had accordingly requested the Executive Director, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Social Commission and the appropriate specialized agencies, to make a study of the continuing needs of children so that the Executive Board might report its conclusions to the Economic and Social Council at its tenth session.

31. Referring to the question of contributions, Mr. Rajchman said that, if, as it had been said, there could be no Fund without contributions, it followed that the Fund would exist as long as Governments and individuals were prepared to contribute. Some Governments, however, had apparently decided to reduce their contributions in future. Such would be the case with the United States of America, if Congress retained the Bill terminating United States participation in the Fund on 30 June 1950. On the other hand, a number of Governments had already announced their intention of continuing their contributions. France had declared its willingness to make an annual contribution of 175 million francs for a period of three years and Australia to contribute up to 1 million Australian pounds. Canada, Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands, Poland, New Zealand and Switzerland had renewed their contributions, while the Dominican Republic and Thailand had announced their intention of participating in the Fund.

32. No one, Mr. Rajchman said in conclusion, would accept the responsibility of discouraging those who were ready to continue their co-operation in such a practical manifestation of solidarity on behalf of the unfortunate children of the world, without regard to race, creed, nationality or political opinion.

33. The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Rajchman for his clear statement of the position, which would undoubtedly be of great assistance to the Committee.

34. Mr. MAKIN (Australia), in introducing the joint draft resolution (A/C.3/L.35), reminded the Committee that Dr. Evatt, in his message as retiring President of the General Assembly, had said that the continuance of UNICEF, "whose noble endeavour has been crowned with notable success", was absolutely essential.

35. He was proud to announce that the Australian Parliament had, the previous month, voted a further contribution of 500,000 Australian pounds to UNICEF. That further contribution, which was Australia's fourth, brought the total Australian contribution to the Fund to 10 million dollars, or 1 dollar 40 cents per head of the population. In making its contributions, the Australian Government had been mindful of the very generous offer made by the United States Government to contribute 2 dollars 57 cents for every dollar contributed by other Governments. As a result of the Australian contributions, therefore, it might be hoped that the United States would contribute 25 million dollars to the Fund.

36. Mr. Makin recalled in that connexion the view expressed by the Executive Director of the Fund, Mr. Pate, that the Australian contribution would encourage other Governments to renew their contributions to the Fund and would stimulate voluntary collections through the United Nations Appeal for Children.

37. When the General Assembly had reviewed the progress of the Fund in the previous year, the total contributions had amounted to 99 million dollars, of which 60 million had been contributed by Governments and 29 by UNRRA. In the current year contributions had risen to a total of 141 million, the increase of 42 millions having been contributed by Governments and by the peoples of the world.
38. The Fund had always endeavoured to make immediate use of the resources at its disposal, and its existing reserve was therefore only 500,000 dollars. It was clear from the figures he had quoted that the budget of the Fund had in the past few years been as large as that of the United Nations as a whole. It should be noted that the Fund had been able to secure the necessary resources without establishing a scale of compulsory contributions. Every government contribution to the Fund involved a separate decision and therefore reflected the importance attached to the work of the Fund. In the course of the three preceding years thirty-five Governments had taken 200 such decisions.
39. It should be emphasized that in UNICEF the United Nations had created an organ which, by reason of its profoundly humanitarian character, was capable of attracting large resources on a voluntary basis.
40. In reviewing the Fund's activities in the course of the past year, Mr. Makin said that the child-feeding programmes in Europe had continued throughout the year and that the funds allocated would enable 5 million European children to be fed until May 1950. Other programmes, such as the furnishing of medical supplies, the furnishing of raw materials for children's clothing and shoes and the conservation of milk had been continued. Special reference should be made to the BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccination campaign, under which more than 10 million children had been tested and over 5 million vaccinated at a cost of a few cents per capita. The conference of the Health Departments of the European Governments held the previous year had reached the conclusion that the experience gained in that international campaign should be utilized in other fields of tuberculosis control. The conference had also expressed the view that international collaboration in the field of social medicine might be of real value in solving world-wide problems. Before the establishment of the Fund, campaigns for vaccination with BCG had been confined to the Scandinavian countries. Campaigns in many European countries were nearing completion and further campaigns were planned or in progress in the Middle East, India and Latin America. In that connexion a tribute should be paid to the Scandinavian teams which had co-operated with the Fund not only in Europe but in other parts of the world also.
41. The programmes and techniques which the Fund had introduced had been adopted by the countries concerned and would henceforth form an integral part of their systems of social assistance. The conference of Health Departments had also expressed the view that each country should take the necessary measures to ensure the continuance of BCG vaccinations after the conclusion of the mass campaign.
42. The various training activities of the Fund had progressed in the last year. A most important gain had been achieved with the completion of the plans for a children's health centre in Paris. That centre, which would provide facilities for instruction, demonstrations and research of an international character, was to be financed by the French Government. UNICEF was to supply the necessary foreign currency for the salaries of the international staff and the purchase of equipment. That splendid idea was inspired by the experience acquired in the training programmes for young pediatricians, which had also been financed by the French Government.
43. The Fund's activities had been extended in the Middle East Africa and Palestine. The aid given by the Fund to the United Nations Relief for Palestine Refugees amounted already to a total of 9,400,000 dollars. That allocation would enable the Fund to send supplies to Palestine until March 1950. The Fund currently contributed one-half of a daily ration of some 1,500 to 1,700 calories to 500,000 refugees.
44. Recalling that the daily European diet was very often double that amount, he wondered what would be the position of those distressed people without the help of UNICEF. It had given one-quarter of the total supplies furnished by the United Nations. The Secretary-General had emphasized that the successful operations of the United Nations Relief for Palestine Refugees depended largely on the continuation of the work of the Fund. The medical assistance extended to the Palestine refugees was equally important in view of the grave danger of epidemics to which they were exposed.
45. He mentioned the results achieved in Latin America and particularly the achievements of the Fund in Ecuador following the recent earthquake.
46. The Australian Government was happy to note the extension of the Fund's activities to the under-developed regions of the world, particularly to those in Asia, where it had undertaken programmes calculated to be of lasting and substantial value. Praiseworthy progress had been realized in Indonesia thanks to the efforts of a joint committee composed of representatives of the Netherlands and of the Indonesian Republic, under the direction of the UNICEF chief of mission.
47. The sponsors of the draft resolution submitted to the Committee warmly recommended the adoption of paragraph 3, which expressed the gratitude of the General Assembly for the great assistance rendered by the Fund to millions of mothers and children in various parts of the world.
48. Nevertheless he could not over-emphasize how extensive were the needs for assistance in the future. The report submitted by the Fund to the Economic and Social Council at its ninth session (E/1406), based on the statistics of the FAO, revealed that the production of milk was still insufficient. Figures regarding milk statistics for 1947-1948 indicated that the per capita production of milk in the eight European countries still receiving UNICEF food assistance was 62 per cent of the pre-war level. The output of livestock produce in Europe for 1948-1949 was about two-thirds of the pre-war figure. The restoration of livestock numbers to pre-war levels, which was a condition of the restoration of pre-war food consumption, would take a number of years. According to FAO figures, in 1948-1949

the total supply of food available per head was 84 per cent of the pre-war supply.

49. The salvation of a whole generation of children was in the balance. In praising the work of UNICEF, President Truman had said that the establishment of lasting peace depended in large measure upon whether those children, who would shape the future, had healthy bodies and a normal and happy outlook on life.

50. In the under-developed countries of Asia, where conditions were aggravated by the war, famine had become endemic. FAO figures showed that the total food available per head in the Far East was 12 per cent below the pre-war figure. Countries in that category were particularly affected by high infant mortality. Those were the reasons that inspired paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, which stated that the emergency needs arising out of the war still persisted over and above the needs of under-developed countries.

51. The next paragraph emphasized the importance of the Fund in the structure of the United Nations welfare bodies. The Fund had provided help throughout the world without discrimination on grounds of race, religion, nationality or politi-

cal opinion. The Fund had also successfully intervened when disaster struck a country or region. Its work had captured the imagination of the peoples and their Government. The United Nations Appeal for Children had offered the opportunity to men of good will to do something for the United Nations and for the world's children.

52. Further contributions had to be forthcoming if the programmes in Europe and the Middle East were to be continued. That was the consideration that was embodied in the last paragraph of the joint draft resolution.

53. His delegation expressed the wish that the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.35) would be adopted unanimously. The essentially humanitarian nature of UNICEF should appeal to the members of the Committee. It was a great enterprise in which all the nations, including many nations not Members of the United Nations, could join on a basis of humanitarian co-operation.

54. The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Committee to see a film illustrating the activities of UNICEF and the needs of distressed children.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.

TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIXTH MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York, on Friday, 18 November 1949, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Carlos E. STOLK (Venezuela).

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund: (a) report of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (b) United Nations Appeal for Children (A/1006 and E/1406) (continued)

1. Mr. CONTOUMAS (Greece) said that he had already expressed his country's deep appreciation of the work of UNICEF at the previous session of the Assembly. In the year that had since elapsed that appreciation had grown even greater, if possible. There were about 642,000 Greek children among the 5 million children in Europe for whom the Fund was providing relief. He fully recognized that his country received much more from the Fund than it was able to contribute and he could not but appeal to the Governments which had contributed so generously to the Fund to continue to do so. The children in his country would be left in a very sorry plight if the Fund were to cease its activities in the near future.

2. Mr. RODRÍGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) said that the *Report of the International Children's Emergency Fund* showed once more the magnitude of the problem confronting the United Nations. The problem was universal in scope and, where the welfare of countless children was at stake, there could be no room for any discrimination. Indeed, one of the basic principles of the Fund was that aid should be given in all instances on the basis of need, without regard to race, creed, nationality or political consideration. The children of the world were mankind's hope for the future and no effort should be spared to restore those who had suffered the ravages of war to health and happiness.

3. The figures mentioned in the report showed that the situation in Europe still left much to be desired. In eight European countries the milk production in the year 1947-1948 had reached only 62 per cent of the pre-war level. In the year 1948-1949 the production had risen, but only to 70 per cent of the pre-war level. The children were undersized owing to malnutrition and because of their weakened condition. They were liable to contract tuberculosis and other diseases. The children who had been through the war looked haggard and desperate; instead of the care-free happiness of youth, tragedy and suffering were mirrored in their eyes. A whole generation was in peril from the dual threats of malnutrition and tuberculosis.

4. The problem was not confined to Europe alone, for in Asia and other parts of the world the high infant mortality rates called for continuous attention. In January 1948, an inter-American congress had been held at Caracas to consider the problem of child welfare and the vital importance of reducing the infant mortality rate had been stressed. In his country, special attention was being paid to that problem and, in spite of all its own difficulties in that field, Uruguay had been glad to contribute 1 million dollars to UNICEF.

5. He recalled the humanitarian statement made by President Truman before the United States Congress about the sufferings endured by half the world's population and the imperative need to bring modern science to bear on the elimination of those sufferings. In his opinion, the General Assembly should declare that it was its responsibility under the Charter to give special attention to the problem of the needs of children throughout