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REVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF
ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Report prepared by the secretariat of the International
Conference on the Question of Palestine

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1 - 7	4
I. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT BODIES AND PROGRAMMES	8 - 113	5
A. Centre for Human Rights	8 - 11	5
B. Division for Palestinian Rights	12 - 19	11
C. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	20 - 28	14
D. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO)	29 - 39	16
E. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)*		
F. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) ..	40 - 43	18
G. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	44 - 82	20
H. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	83 - 88	25
I. World Food Programme (WFP)	89 - 95	28
J. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	96 - 98	30
K. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)	99 - 111	30
L. United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) ..	112 - 113	33
II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES	114 - 188	34
A. International Labour Organisation (ILO)	114 - 121	34
B. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	122 - 141	36

* See E/1983/72, paras. 14-27.

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
C. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	142 - 157	39
D. World Health Organization (WHO)	158 - 179	42
E. International Maritime Organization (IMO)	180 - 181	45
F. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	182 - 188	45

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INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 36/120 C of 10 December 1981 the General Assembly decided to convene the International Conference on the Question of Palestine and, by its resolution 37/86 C of 10 December 1982, it inter alia called upon all organizations of the United Nations system to continue to extend their fullest support to the Conference and to its preparation.

2. In accordance with the provisions of the above resolutions, the Secretary-General of the Conference invited the specialized agencies and United Nations offices, programmes and agencies to co-operate in the preparations for the Conference. Contributions were invited in the form of documentation, participation at the regional preparatory meetings and at the Conference itself.

3. At its meeting from 11 to 14 October 1982, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) of the Advisory Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) considered the participation of United Nations organizations in the preparatory process on the basis of a note by the Conference secretariat containing proposals for inter-agency co-operation. At that session, the Consultative Committee approved the convening of the first ad hoc inter-agency meeting. At this meeting, which was held on 19 and 20 January 1983 at Geneva, the participating organizations discussed the nature and scope of inter-agency co-operation in preparing for the International Conference and the modalities and mechanisms for such co-operation. The meeting agreed that the concerned organs, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system should:

(a) Establish a comprehensive list of their own studies and/or issues relevant to the objectives of the Conference and identify, in consultation with the secretariat of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, which of them might serve as background or basic documents for the Conference;

(b) Provide to the secretariat of the Conference, for necessary action, the information covering assistance to the Palestinian people which they submit annually to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his report to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. Those annual reports might be supplemented by more detailed information where desired in individual cases by particular United Nations organs, programmes and specialized agencies;

(c) Participate in the regional preparatory meetings, as appropriate, and in the Conference itself.

4. The meeting recommended the holding of a further two-day meeting, not later than the first week of June 1983, to synthesize the conclusions and recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings relevant to the work of the United Nations system and to finalize their contributions to the Conference.

5. This second ad hoc inter-agency meeting on preparations for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine was convened on 30 and 31 May 1983 at Geneva, after it was approved by the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme) at its first regular session in March 1983. The meeting

considered a progress report on the preparations for the Conference and was informed of the great concern expressed at four regional preparatory meetings which were held in Africa, Latin America, West Asia and Asia at the gravely deteriorating conditions of the Palestinian people and dangers arising from the unresolved Palestine question. The meeting noted the conclusions of the four regional meetings which recommended that the United Nations, its various agencies, programmes and bodies should expand and intensify the level of their economic, legal, educational and health assistance to the Palestinian people as concrete measures of securing their rights. It further reviewed the various recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings and identified those relevant to the work of the United Nations system. 1/

6. In accordance with recommendation 1 (b) of the first ad hoc inter-agency meeting (ACC/1983/PG/2), the present report reproduces summaries of the mandate, projects and programmes carried out by six specialized agencies, ten United Nations programmes and entities and two offices of the United Nations Secretariat, on their assistance to the Palestinian people as submitted by the relevant bodies to the secretariat of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine.

7. Information received from other organizations at a later date will be issued as an addendum to this report.

I. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT BODIES AND PROGRAMMES

A. Centre for Human Rights

8. The Centre for Human Rights services the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories which was established by General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968.

9. The Special Committee submitted its first report in October 1970 and since then has reported every year to the General Assembly. On the recommendation of the Special Political Committee, the Assembly adopted the following resolutions on the reports submitted by the Special Committee: 2727 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2851 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971, 3005 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3092 A and B (XXVIII) of 7 December 1973, 3240 A to C (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3525 A to D (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 31/106 A to D of 16 December 1976, 32/91 A to C of 13 December 1977, 33/113 A to C of 18 December 1978, 34/90 A to C of 12 December 1979, 35/122 A to F of 11 December 1980, 36/147 A to G of 16 December 1981 and 37/88 A to C of 10 December 1982.

10. The Centre for Human Rights also services the Commission on Human Rights and its Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and has responsibility for the substantive coverage of human rights items on the agenda of the Economic and Social Council. The question of Palestine and human rights has been discussed repeatedly in the afore-mentioned bodies as well as in the

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International Conference on Human Rights which took place in Teheran in 1968. A list of relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the International Conference on Human Rights is contained in in the attached annex.

11. In accordance with resolution 1892/1 A adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on 11 February 1982 on the question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine, which was subsequently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council by its decision 1982/127 of 7 May 1982, the Centre for Human Rights organized a Seminar on the following topic: "The violation of human rights in Palestine and other territories occupied by Israel." The report of that Seminar, which was held from 19 November to 3 December 1982 at Geneva, is to be found in document ST/HR/SER.A/14.

Annex

LIST OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES, THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TEHERAN, 22 APRIL TO 13 MAY 1968*

A. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. Resolutions

Resolution 1336 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968

Question of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 1515 (XLVIII) of 28 May 1970

Protection of women and children in emergency or wartime, fighting for peace, national liberation and independence

Resolution 1687 (LII) of 2 June 1972

Protection of women and children in emergency and armed conflict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence

* The present chronological list contains all resolutions adopted and decisions taken by Human Rights bodies from 1968 (when the question of Palestine was first discussed in their meetings) to 31 March 1983.

Resolution 2085 (LXII) of 13 May 1977

Question of the violation of Israel of human rights in the occupied Arab territories

Resolution 1978/24 of 5 May 1978

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 1979/40 of 10 May 1979

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 1981/42 of 8 May 1982

Human Rights questions: the case of Ziad Abu Ain

Resolution 1982/18 of 4 May 1982

Situation of women and children in the occupied Arab territories

Resolution 1982/48 of 27 July 1982

Assistance to the Palestinian people

2. Decisions

Decision 1982/27 of 7 May 1982

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

B. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Resolutions

Resolution 6 (XXIV) of 27 February 1968

Question of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 6 (XXV) of 4 March 1969

Question of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 7 (XXV) of 4 March 1969

Question of human rights arising out of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 10 (XXVI) of 23 March 1970

Question of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities at the Middle East, including the report of the Special Working Group of Experts

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Resolution 9 (XXVII) of 15 March 1971

Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 3 (XXVIII) of 22 March 1972

Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 4 (XXIX) of 14 March 1973

Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 1 (XXX) of 11 February 1974

Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 6 (XXXI) of 21 February 1975

Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 2 (XXXII) of 13 February 1976

Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 1 (XXXIII) of 15 February 1977

Question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East

Resolution 1 (XXXIV) of 14 February 1978

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 2 (XXXIV) of 14 February 1978

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 3 (XXXIV) of 14 February 1978

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 1 (XXXV) of 21 February 1979

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 2 (XXXV) of 21 February 1979

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 3 (XXXV) of 21 February 1979

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

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Resolution 1 (XXXVI) of 13 February 1980

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 2 (XXXVI) of 14 February 1980

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 5 (XXXVI) of 15 February 1980

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 1 (XXXVII) of 11 February 1981

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 2 (XXXVII) of 11 February 1981

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 14 (XXXVII) of 6 March 1981

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 1982/1 of 11 February 1982

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 1982/2 of 11 February 1982

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 1982/3 of 11 February 1982

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

Resolution 1983/1 of 15 February 1983

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 1983/2 of 15 February 1983

Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

Resolution 1983/3 of 15 February 1983

The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation

2. Decisions

Telegram to the Government of Israel of 9 March 1968

Decision 2 (XXXI) of 3 February 1975

Admission to observer status of the Palestine Liberation Organization

Decision 1 (XXXIII) of 10 February 1977

Telegram to the Government of Israel

Decision 2 (XXXV) of 14 February 1979

Telegram to the Government of Israel

C. SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION
AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

1. Resolutions

Resolution 4A (XXXII) of 5 September 1979

Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories

Resolution 14 (XXXVIII) of 11 September 1980

Question of the human rights of persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment

Resolution 15 (XXXVIII) of 11 September 1980

Question of the human rights of persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment

Resolution 20 (XXXVIII) of 11 September 1980

Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories

Resolution 4 (XXXIV) of 8 September 1981

Question of the human rights of persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment

Resolution 9 (XXXIV) of 9 September 1981

Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid, in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories: report of the Sub-Commission under Commission on Human Rights resolution 8 (XXIII)

Resolution 1982/18 of 8 September 1982

Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid, in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories; report of the Sub-Commission under Commission on Human Rights resolution 8 (XXIII)

2. Decisions

Decision 1982/2 of 17 August 1982

Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid, in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories; report of the Sub-Commission under Commission on Human Rights resolution 8 (XXIII)

D. COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Decision 1 (XVI) of 4 August 1977

Information supplied by the Government of Jordan relating to the situation in the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the Jordan River

E. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Resolution I of 7 May 1968

Respect for and implementation of human rights in occupied territories

B. Division for Palestinian Rights

12. The Division for Palestinian Rights, originally called the Special Unit for Palestinian Rights, was established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, according to which it was requested to:

(a) Prepare, under the guidance of, and in consultation with, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, studies and publications relating to:

- (i) The inalienable rights of the Palestinian people;
- (ii) Relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations;
- (iii) The activities of the Committee and other United Nations organs, in order to promote the attainment of those rights;

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(b) Promote maximum publicity for such studies and publications through all appropriate means;

(c) Organize, in consultation with the Committee, commencing in 1978, the annual observance of 29th November as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

13. In 1982 the Special Unit was redesignated the Division for Palestinian Rights in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 36/120 B.

14. The Division organizes each year on 29 November the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The main features of the observance are special meetings of the Committee in New York and meetings in the United Nations Office at Geneva, as well as exhibitions of Palestinian art sponsored by the Committee and a photographic display dealing with Palestinian rights prepared by the United Nations Department of Public Information. Films concerning Palestinian rights are also screened.

15. In 1979, the film "Palestinian people do have rights" was produced by the Department of Public Information in consultation with the Committee. This film, first shown on the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, has since received wide publicity in several capitals where it was screened through the co-operation of the United Nations Information Centres.

16. In accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 34/65 D, eight seminars on Palestinian rights were organized by the Division from 1980 to 1983.

17. In compliance with paragraphs 5 and 7 of General Assembly resolution 34/65 D, a series of United Nations commemorative postage stamps on Palestinian rights were issued in January 1981.

18. The Division also services the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, for which inter alia it monitors the Hebrew and Arabic press.

19. The Division has prepared the following list of studies and publications:

ST/SG/SER.F/1, The origins and evolution of the Palestine problem,
Part I Part I: 1917-1947

ST/SG/SER.F/1, The origins and evolution of the Palestine problem,
Part II Part II: 1947-1977

ST/SG/SER.F/1, The origins and evolution of the Palestine problem,
Part III Part III: 1978-1983 (in preparation)

ST/SG/SER.F/2 The right of return of the Palestinian people

ST/SG/SER.F/3 The right of self-determination of the Palestinian people

ST/SG/SER.F/4 An international law analysis of the major United Nations resolutions concerning the Palestine question

- The status of Jerusalem (United Nations - New York, 1979) (being updated in 1983)
- The question of Palestine (United Nations - New York, 1979)
- The question of the observance of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 in Gaza and the West Bank including Jerusalem occupied by Israel in June 1967 (United Nations - New York, 1979)
- The international status of the Palestinian people (United Nations - New York - 1979)
- Israel's policy on the West Bank water resources (United Nations - New York - 1980)
- Acquisition of land in Palestine (United Nations - New York, 1980)
- The Palestine question - a brief history (United Nations - New York, 1980)
- Palestinian children in the occupied territories (United Nations - New York, 1981)
- Social, economic and political institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (United Nations - New York, 1982)
- Legal status of the West Bank and Gaza (United Nations - New York, 1982)
- Israeli settlements in Gaza and in the West Bank (including Jerusalem) - Their nature and purpose (United Nations - New York, 1982)
- The Palestine question - A brief history (United Nations - New York, 1983) (Published in German, Italian and Swahili in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/120 B)
- The question of Palestine: Questions and answers (United Nations - New York, 1983) (in preparation)
- Monthly Bulletin, published regularly since June 1978
- Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982)
- The First United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (Arusha)
- The Second United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (Vienna)

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- The Third United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (Colombo)
- The Fourth United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (Havana)
- The Fifth United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (New York)
- The Sixth United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (Malta)
- The Seventh United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (Dakar)
- The Eighth United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine (Jakarta) (in preparation)

A/AC.183/L.2 Resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council relating to the question of Palestine, 1947-1975

A/AC.183/L.2/ Add.1 Resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council relating to the question of Palestine, 1976-1979

A/AC.183/L.2/ Add. 2 Resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council relating to the question of Palestine, 1980-1981

A/AC.183/L.2/ Add. 3 Resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council relating to the question of Palestine, 1982

- Special Bulletin on the Commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982.
- Historical background of the question of Palestine in the United Nations, 1947-1975
- The United Nations and the question of Palestine: A compilation of Essays, 1980-1982
- Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (1983) (Prepared by the Department of Public Information)

C. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

20. In its resolution 109 (V) of 1 June 1979, the Conference requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, within the context of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, to initiate studies, within the competence of UNCTAD, as regards those peoples and countries still living under colonial domination or foreign occupation, among which it specified the people of Palestine. These studies were to be undertaken in collaboration with

the respective national liberation movements recognized by regional intergovernmental organizations, and progress reports were to be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.

21. Pursuant to this resolution, the UNCTAD secretariat initiated work early in 1980, with the assistance of consultants, on the preparation of a study on assistance to the Palestinian people. The immediate objective of this study was to formulate, on the basis of an in-depth analysis and examination of the major development problems facing the peoples concerned, concrete proposals for assistance to them, including their national liberation movements, in the context of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

I. The review of the economic conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories

22. This report sought to provide a background review of the economic conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories; to identify the main economic problems facing the Palestinian people; and to make suggestions for a programme of action designed to overcome those problems. The report also examined the impact on the social and economic situation of the Palestinian people, and on agriculture, industry and the social and economic infrastructure in the occupied Arab territories, of a number of measures taken since 1967 by the occupying authorities, including those related to the control of water resources development and the distribution of water to the marketing of and trade in products produced by the Palestinian population, to monetary and financial flows and to land policy, among other things.

23. The report outlined a number of recommendations on measures for the stabilization and strengthening of the local economies in the occupied Arab territories, as well as for improving the social and economic situation of the Palestinian population living in these territories. 2/ The report also stressed the need for carrying out further in-depth sectoral studies.

24. At its twenty-third session, the Trade and Development Board, after considering the report, adopted resolution 239 (XXIII) which requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, within the context of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, to consult and prepare with other United Nations agencies and bodies, a comprehensive survey on the state of the economy of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories as well as an elaborate analysis of the potential for its development in the various sectors and to formulate proposals for alternative development strategies in collaboration with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). In this resolution, the Board invited UNDP to make available to UNCTAD additional resources for preparing these surveys.

II. Survey of the economy in the occupied Arab territories

25. In compliance with paragraph 3 of Trade and Development Board resolution 239 (XXIII), the UNCTAD secretariat approached UNDP to seek additional resources for financing the preparation of the survey. While it has not yet been found possible to secure additional resources for conducting an in-depth survey of the economy in the occupied territories, initial steps have been taken by the UNCTAD secretariat, including consultations with the representatives of PLO, on the scope and modalities of execution of the contemplated survey, which is envisaged as providing a comprehensive analytical framework within which alternative development strategies could be assessed and translated into a concrete programme of action.

26. As a first step, a report has been prepared by consultants at the request of the UNCTAD secretariat for consideration by the Trade and Development Board at its twenty-seventh session. This report contains a broad evaluation of the potential for and constraints on the economic and social development of the Palestinian people, while providing a framework and direction for the in-depth sectorial studies that would need to be made in preparing the comprehensive survey. During the preparation of this report, consultations were held with representatives of PLO. It is hoped that the complete text of the report, entitled "Palestine: Options for development", will be available for reference during the Conference.

27. The UNCTAD secretariat has also held consultations with the secretariat of UNIDO which, in compliance with its mandate, is preparing a comprehensive study on the industrial sector of the Palestinian economy. The results of this study are expected to make an important contribution to the proposed survey.

28. It should be noted, however, that the provision of additional funds to UNCTAD from extrabudgetary sources is now crucial, if the work in this area is to be intensified in compliance with Trade and Development Board resolution 239 (XXIII) in particular, as regards preparation of the in-depth sectorial studies.

D. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO)

29. The events that took place in Lebanon starting in June 1982 affected a great number of people living in the south of Lebanon and in the Beirut area, including a large number of Palestinians. The Secretary-General of the United Nations issued on 11 June an appeal to the international community which he asked UNDRO to launch on his behalf. The text of the appeal is given below.

30. "The Secretary-General of the United Nations, deeply concerned by the recent tragic events in Lebanon launches an appeal on behalf of the affected population in order to alleviate the great suffering resulting from the Israeli invasion.

31. "Pending assessment in situ and evaluation of situation, contributions are requested to cover following needs:

- (a) First-aid material;
 - (b) Blood, plasma and transfusion equipment;
 - (c) Surgical dressings and equipment;
 - (d) Tents;
 - (e) Water purification units;
 - (f) Blankets;
 - (g) Food, particularly for children;
 - (h) Cash.
32. "All offers and contributions should be addressed to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and United Nations Resident Co-ordinator in Lebanon, Mr. I. Akhund, Beirut, who will co-ordinate relief activities at the country level.
33. "Please inform the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) of such offers and contributions in order that UNDRO can advise on best means of access and mode of transport".
34. UNDRO took prompt action in response to its mandate, as laid down by General Assembly resolutions 2816 (XXVI), 36/225 and 37/144, and followed up all developments on the situation in order to evaluate and mobilize all assistance needed.
35. In line with its humanitarian concern, UNDRO carried out the tasks entrusted to it without making any differentiation on nationality or other grounds. In the following months the United Nations and its various bodies and organizations provided a considerable amount of relief goods and material that was transported to Lebanon with all the means that could be used in the prevailing situation. UNDRO itself supported and organized four charter flights which carried to Lebanon relief goods for immediate distribution to the affected population. A total of 112 tons valued at approximately \$900,000 (including transportation) were carried by UNDRO flights.
36. In September-October 1982, UNDRO initiated a review of the situation and issued an appeal for a concerted relief programme designed to meet needs which had not been covered. This appeal covered specifically the affected Palestinian population in Lebanon. The value of this appeal totalled about \$16 million and, in response to it, the Commission of the European Communities granted through UNDRO a sum of approximately \$8 million to fund a great part of the activities within the UNDRO Concerted Programme. UNDRO's Concerted Relief Programme was executed between October 1982 and April 1983 in co-operation with agencies and bodies of the United Nations system as well as international and national relief organizations including UNICEF, UNRWA, WHO, the Red Cross of the Federal Republic of Germany, OXFAM United

Kingdom, OXFAM Belgium, the Government of Lebanon-High Relief Committee (HCR) and a local committee of national NGOs. Activities executed included projects in the fields of emergency repair of water supply and sanitation, rubble clearance from refugee camps, medication and medical equipment, emergency repair of shelters, and winter clothing for refugees. About half of the funds available were specifically earmarked for the affected Palestinian population.

37. The international response to the appeal launched by UNDRO on behalf of the Secretary-General resulted in a considerable amount of relief goods as well as cash donations contributed through various bodies in favour of the affected population. The total recorded by UNDRO, as of 10 June 1983, is \$166,023,009, in addition to several contributions for which no value was reported by the donors.

38. Throughout the duration of the emergency phase, which continued for several months, UNDRO maintained two delegates in Beirut who assisted the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Akhund. In order to streamline international co-ordination, it was agreed that Mr. Akhund would report to UNDRO on emergency relief matters while continuing his reporting to United Nations Headquarters, New York, for reconstruction and development matters.

39. As of 30 June 1983, UNDRO had completed its Concerted Relief Programme and remains on stand-by, in case the situation, which remains difficult, further affects the population and will thus determine additional relief needs.

F. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements [UNHCS (Habitat)]

1. Mandate

40. The Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements and the Recommendations for National Action, as adopted at the Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements held at Vancouver, Canada, 31 May to 11 June 1976), contains two paragraphs which, in addition to the other relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Settlements, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council, have guided the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlement (Habitat) with respect to the question of Palestine. The first is paragraph 5 of the General Principles contained in the Vancouver Declaration, which states:

"The establishment of settlements in territories occupied by force is illegal. It is condemned by the international community. However, action still remains to be taken against the establishment of such settlements."

And the second is recommendations D.1 (e) of the Recommendations for National Action, which states:

In all occupied territories, changes in the demographic composition, or the transfer or uprooting of the native population, and the destruction of existing human settlements in these lands and/or the establishment of new settlements for intruders, is inadmissible. The heritage and national identity must be protected. Any policies that violate these principles must be condemned.

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2. Activities relating to the question of Palestine

41. The Centre's activities relating to the question of Palestine fall under three broad categories: (a) research; (b) technical co-operation; and (c) information. As regards the research type of activities, UNCHS (Habitat), as the lead agency, has so far prepared, through expert consultants especially recruited for this purpose, four reports of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people (in 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983) for submission to the General Assembly pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 34/113, 35/75, 36/73, and 37/222 respectively. These reports provide statistical information with some analysis on a range of economic and social issues that determine the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

42. As regards technical assistance to the Palestinian people, UNCHS (Habitat) participated in an Inter-Agency Task Force which identified several specific projects of assistance to the Palestinian people for implementation in various economic and social fields. Four of the projects identified by the Task Force were in the field of human settlements. These were: training in housing; housing fund; housing survey in the West Bank and Gaza; and construction machinery and equipment for municipalities and co-operatives. Of these four projects, the project on training in housing received approval from the UNDP Governing Council for implementation. The other three are in the pipeline and will presumably be implemented when additional UNDP resources become available and the parties concerned agree on the modalities of implementation. In addition, and following a request which was made by the PLO representative to the 1981 second regular session of the Economic and Social Council that UNCHS (Habitat) find ways and means of assisting the housing co-operative societies in the occupied territories, the Centre communicated the request to UNDP for consideration and possible inclusion in the UNDP programme of assistance to the Palestinian people. This action was taken in view of the fact that, with the exception of one project and at the specific request of the occupying authorities, all United Nations projects are being implemented by UNDP rather than being entrusted to the executing agencies concerned. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/48 of 27 July 1982 on assistance to the Palestinian people, and in response to a specific request from PLO, UNCHS has also recently offered middle-level technical training fellowships to qualified Palestinians to be trained in various disciplines in the field of human settlements. The fellowships are for the biennium 1983-1984 for courses in suitable specialized institutes for durations of up to six months each in a variety of subjects in the field of human settlements.

43. With regard to information dissemination, films, publications and documents on human settlements are distributed on a regular basis by UNCHS information offices in all regions and particularly by the UNCHS Information Office in Amman, Jordan, which serves all Arabic-speaking countries. Of particular interest in this connection is the audio-visual presentation entitled "The key" which was contributed by PLO to the 1976 Habitat Conference. This 27-minute colour film, which has been widely disseminated, is a moving portrayal of the plight of the Palestinians, as symbolized by an old man who keeps in his refugee quarters the key to his former home in Jaffa. The film has language versions in Arabic, English, French and Spanish which can be made available, together with various publications of UNCHS, to all interested groups.

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G. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

44. In accordance with its mandate of meeting the urgent and basic needs of children and mothers in developing countries, UNICEF submitted to its 1980 Executive Board session four programme recommendations for assistance to Palestinian children and mothers in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the West Bank and Gaza. A summary of this co-operation during 1980-1982 is provided below. In 1983 ongoing activities are being supported and the UNICEF Regional Office in Beirut is preparing new programmes of co-operation for the Palestinian children and mothers for submission to the 1984 Executive Board session for approval.

1. Assistance to Palestinian mothers and children in Jordan

45. UNICEF started supporting the UNRWA preventive health services programme in refugee camps and provided different types of vaccines, syringes and needles for the immunization activities of UNRWA, which benefited 20,000 children.

46. Assistance in the form of basic equipment, oral rehydration salt and other drugs was also extended to UNRWA health centres to upgrade their maternal and child health services. Approximately 40,000 children and mothers benefited from the services of those centres.

47. UNICEF made available the services of a part-time health education consultant who helped the Palestinian Family Welfare Association to plan and implement a health education campaign in refugee camps. A training programme for health education volunteers and for the production of local audio-visual aids was also assisted.

48. Upgrading of five pre-vocational rehabilitation centres for girls and women supervised by the Palestinian Family Welfare Association was supported. These centres offer training courses in knitting, sewing, typing, literacy and home economics. During 1980, approximately 100 girls benefited from this training.

49. Assistance was also extended by UNICEF to the Palestinian Family Welfare Association to strengthen child-care services in refugee camps. Five kindergartens were provided with indoor and outdoor play equipment and their staff underwent refresher in-service training. Around 120 children were enrolled in these kindergartens.

50. During 1981 UNICEF assistance enabled UNRWA to extend its immunization campaigns to cover 20,000 children. Upgrading of preventive health care services enabled the health centres run by UNRWA to reach a greater number of mothers and children. UNICEF provided resources for the training of 120 health workers in various refugee camps. Instructional material and audio-visual aids were produced to support the health education campaign in refugee camps.

51. Upgrading of rehabilitation centres in the Al-Baqaa and Al-Jofeh refugee camps provided facilities for more women to receive training in income-generating

skills. Under the family welfare programme new day-care centres and kindergartens were established in the Al-Baqaa, Wahdat and Muzha refugee camps, and 41 kindergarten workers and supervisors were trained.

52. In 1982, UNICEF co-operation included assistance to UNRWA in extending its immunization campaign and upgrading preventive health services in the refugee camps. Around 25,000 children were vaccinated and 10,000 families benefited from the preventive services of the health centres run by UNRWA.

53. A joint effort was undertaken by the Family Welfare Association, UNICEF, UNRWA and the municipality of Amman to plan and implement a health education campaign in Al-Wahadat refugee camp. Around 50 women leaders and volunteers in this camp were given refresher training in child health, personal hygiene, health education and environmental sanitation.

54. Support was provided for Palestinian philanthropic associations and active NGOs for implementation of pre-vocational activities such as knitting, sewing and typing. Kindergarten classes in two camps and the Haya recreational children centre for Al-Ashrafiye were supported with the audio-visual aids and play equipment.

55. The Nazzal Community Development Centre which is located in a poor slum area where a majority of the inhabitants are Palestinians was supported with sewing and knitting machines, typewriters, audio-visual aids, play equipment and children's books. Around 100 children and 50 women are benefiting from the services of this centre.

2. Assistance to Palestinian mothers and children in Lebanon

56. During 1977-1979, direct aid to Palestinian mothers and children was limited to relief operations for those displaced during the disturbances.

57. Through indirect assistance, Palestinian mothers and children benefited from the rehabilitation and restoration of water systems as a result of UNICEF's major involvement in a water programme in Lebanon. Many areas, particularly in South Lebanon, where large numbers of refugees are concentrated, were supplied with drinking water. In addition, the early phases of the emergency relief operations (1975-1977) in Lebanon covered all displaced families, both Lebanese and Palestinians.

58. Direct UNICEF aid to displaced Palestinians had the full consent of the Lebanese Government and has been implemented through the Palestine Red Crescent Society and the General Union of Palestinian Women. Expenditures on direct assistance to displaced Palestinians during the period 1977-1979 amount to \$400,000.

59. In 1980, the implementation of the programme approved by the UNICEF Executive Board began. Two maternal and child health centres were established and 10 existing ones upgraded with UNICEF basic and complementary equipment. Two in-service training courses, of two weeks' duration each, were carried out for

24 maternal and child health staff and 19 public health inspectors. The programme included, among other essential subjects, training in the use and maintenance of UNICEF-provided equipment. Furthermore, three groups of 20 health volunteers each underwent an intensive training programme. Their training was sponsored by the General Union of Palestinian Women (GUPW) and UNICEF and co-sponsored by the Lebanese Family Planning Association and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS). The inputs of UNICEF included training grants for the above activities.

60. The attacks on Palestinian camps and dwellings in South Lebanon around mid-1980 resulted in the displacement of a large number of Palestinian families, thus creating an emergency need for chlorination and sanitation supplies and equipment for shelters and hospitals. Based on a request from PRCS, the UNICEF Executive Director released \$45,000 from his Emergency Reserve Fund which, together with an unspent balance of \$11,000 remaining from a 1979 release of \$100,000, was used for the provision of chlorinators, chemijets and sludge pumps, water-testing equipment and disinfectants.

61. In 1981, with UNICEF support, two new maternal and child health centres were established and ten existing centres improved. The immunization campaign, serving approximately 25,000 children and pregnant women, was continued during 1981, resulting in a reduction in the number of diphtheria cases and an estimated drop in communicable children's diseases. A new nursing school in Saida was provided with basic equipment and transport, and support has continued for nursing schools at Tyre and Beirut. Two maternity and children's hospitals at Beirut were provided with basic equipment and transport. Training was provided to various categories of health workers and volunteers.

62. In the field of non-formal education, UNICEF provided support for the establishment of a new pre-vocational training programme and the improvement of four others. Assistance was also provided to enable 23 trainees to receive intensive training in basic life skills. Equipment was also given to a producers' co-operative centre.

63. Social welfare services were strengthened through the establishment of a new kindergarten in South Lebanon, with continuing support to nine existing kindergartens. Assistance was provided for the training of 48 kindergarten teachers.

64. During 1982, UNICEF co-operation prior to the emergency operations included assistance to UNRWA in upgrading its preventive health services through the provision of oral rehydration salt, vaccines, medical supplies and drugs for 20 health/MCH centres. Furthermore, throughout the hostilities in Lebanon in 1982, UNICEF undertook relief operations aimed at alleviating the suffering of all women and children.

65. Emergency assistance was extended by providing supplies and services, the provision of food, medical and other essential supplies to the affected parts of Lebanon, indicated below, and the maintenance of critical water supplies to the besieged residents in the west Beirut area and neighbouring camps.

66. Emergency supplies airlifted or shipped into Lebanon or purchased locally in Beirut, Qana and Damascus, included the following items: baby food, milk powder, infant and children's clothing, tinned food, cooking oil, therapeutic food, blankets, towels, bedding, soap, candles, water tanks and containers, water purification tablets, oral rehydration salts for infant diarrhoea, drugs and dispensary sets, antibiotics and other medical supplies.

67. The distribution of these supplies was through the Government's High Relief Committee, which included local relief committees in all the affected areas of Lebanon, the General Union of Palestinian Women, the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies and religious and village leaders in South Lebanon. Distribution was also effected through UNRWA channels, since UNRWA was the member of the United Nations inter-agency working group on emergency assistance to Lebanon that was made responsible for emergency assistance to all Palestinians during the 1982 hostilities.

68. In Lebanon, emergency supplies reached Palestinian and Lebanese children and mothers in the three main areas of UNICEF emergency assistance: the Beirut area, South Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley (where displaced families took shelter in unoccupied schools and open fields).

69. In the Sabra and Shatila camps outside Beirut, UNICEF undertook to ensure a continuing supply of water to the Palestinian survivors by trucking in water, providing mobile generators to pump water from wells, clearing rubble and providing sanitation services to prevent disease.

70. Post-emergency activities supported by UNICEF included the following areas of general benefit to Palestinian as well as Lebanese women and children, the restoration of basic services and the repair and rebuilding of water supply networks. In addition, in the last quarter of 1982 a number of working sessions were held with officials of PRCS, GUPW and UNRWA which resulted in formulating a work plan with the emphasis on the rehabilitation of services for Palestinian children in the fields of health, education and social services.

3. Assistance to Palestinian mothers and children in the Syrian Arab Republic

71. In response to the urgent and immediate needs, the 1980 allocation was solely used for the purpose of supplying basic equipment to the institutions already providing services for children and women.

72. In the field of health, equipment for 19 maternal and child health centres, syringes and vaccines were supplied to UNRWA to strengthen their medical services.

73. In the field of non-formal education, sewing and knitting machines, a washing machine and typewriters were supplied for the vocational school which was run by the General Organization for Palestinian Affairs and trained 100 girls.

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74. In the field of social welfare, indoor, outdoor and kitchen equipment were provided to the kindergarten in Yarmouk camp, which cared for 500 children. Moreover, supplies and transport were provided to child-care institutions caring, respectively, for 100 boys and 70 girls.

75. In 1981 assistance was provided to UNRWA which enabled 25,000 children to be vaccinated through UNRWA health centres against communicable diseases.

76. Assistance was also provided to a vocational training institute for girls, enabling 100 girls to receive skilled training for income-generating activities.

77. Improvements were made in two residential care institutions, serving 100 children, and facilities in kindergartens were upgraded in Homs, Lattakia, Khan Dannon and Khan el-Sheikh, thereby improving day-care services for 600 children in refugee camps.

78. UNICEF co-operation in 1982 included assistance to UNRWA for the extension of its immunization campaign and upgrading of preventive health services in the refugee camps mainly through the provision of vaccines and medical equipment for the health centres. Furthermore, Palestinian philanthropic organizations and two residential care institutions, namely Saad Ibn-Elass and Abdel Kader El-Husayni, were supported with basic furniture, audio-visual aids, miscellaneous equipment and a bus. A vocational training centre for girls was also upgraded through the provision of equipment.

79. In early July 1982, the UNICEF office in Damascus, in co-operation with UNHCR, assisted the Government of Syria by providing emergency supplies for Palestinian and Lebanese women and children temporarily sheltered in Syria as a result of hostilities in Lebanon.

4. Assistance to Palestinian Mothers and Children in the West Bank and Gaza

80. In 1980, 60 kindergarten teachers underwent training, and arrangements were made to procure supplies.

81. In 1981, in addition to support for the training of kindergarten teachers, furniture and equipment was provided in 1981 for 76 kindergartens in the West Bank and Gaza together with musical instruments and other supplies for the El Alaiya School in the West Bank which provides academic and vocational training for blind children.

82. During 1982, the main emphasis of UNICEF assistance to Palestinian children and mothers in the West Bank and Gaza was on strengthening and expanding immunization activities and other preventive health services conducted by UNRWA Health Centres. To achieve this, UNICEF provided these centres with vaccines, disposable syringes and needles, cold boxes, medical and laboratory equipment, drugs and audio-visual aids.

H. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

1. The Special Programme

83. The Special Programme of development assistance had its origins in General Assembly resolution 33/147, which called upon UNDP to establish concrete projects to improve the social and economic conditions of the Palestinian people. In 1979, the UNDP Governing Council authorized the Administrator to undertake appropriate consultations leading to implementation of project proposals which had been identified, and to draw upon Special Programme resources for the purpose in the amount of \$3.5 million. Following the completion in 1980 of successful reviews of detailed plans with the parties directly concerned, including the representatives of the Palestinian people, the Administrator appointed a Senior Adviser to supervise the new programme on his behalf and authorized the commencement of operational activities.

84. During the ensuing three years, the UNDP programme has shown steady progress. There has been a concentration of activity in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip because of the massive development needs in those occupied territories; only one project, involving the management by FAO of two agricultural training centres in the Syrian Arab Republic, is under implementation elsewhere.

85. Project implementation in the territories poses special challenges because of current conditions. UNDP is required to execute projects directly, without the normal recourse to executing agencies, and emphasis is therefore placed on the appointment of highly qualified and impartial international consultants for project preparation and review. UNDP retains full control of all project inputs throughout the life of the project, including delivery of supplies and equipment to project sites, and no intermediaries are used for transfers of funds required for project expenditures. Major reliance is placed on the use of services offered by United Nations peace-keeping organizations in the area, as well as by UNRWA, with resulting benefits in terms of reliable deliveries and sharply reduced overhead costs.

86. As of mid-1983, four projects had been completed, with outputs which include medical equipment for 10 hospitals and a nurses' training centre; assistance in teacher training and equipment for 94 kindergartens in the West Bank and 26 in Gaza; equipment for agricultural demonstration and training plus individual advanced education for 12 agriculturalists; and buildings, equipment and training facilities for the vocational rehabilitation of disabled persons and adolescents. Proceeding currently are other projects involving courses for technical specialists; graduate training in various medical specializations; training in industrial management, housing, and youth leadership; improvement in women's institutions; development of two agricultural schools; and construction of a large medical services training centre. The attached annex contains a comprehensive listing of completed and ongoing projects.

87. Following the initial funding allocation of \$3.5 million, the Governing Council authorized the Administrator to draw up to a further amount of \$4 million for the third programming cycle, 1982-1986. At the same time, the Council appealed

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to Governments and intergovernmental organizations to provide at least an additional \$8 million during the third programming cycle to supplement the resources available from Special Programme resources. At its recently concluded thirtieth session in June 1983, the Council strongly reiterated this appeal. A pipeline of potential projects has been developed, in consultation with the representatives of the Palestinian people, which will permit special contributions to be utilized readily and effectively, in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

2. Other activities

88. As part of UNDP's regional programme for the Arab states, Palestinian technicians and economists have benefited from the training activities of projects RAB/79/014, (Mediterranean and Arab Telecommunications Network) and RAB/77/002 (Arab Institute for Economic and Social Planning).

Annex

I. COMPLETED PROJECTS

PAL/79/003 - Promotion of pre-primary education

- Activities:
- (a) Three seminars (two for the West Bank and one for Gaza) for pre-primary education teachers had been held, involving the training of 144 teachers from the West Bank and 90 from the Gaza Strip.
 - (b) Furniture and educational toys have been distributed to 94 kindergartens in the West Bank and 26 in the Gaza Strip.
 - (c) Two kindergarten supervisors were hired by UNDP for the West Bank for a period of 24 months. One kindergarten supervisor was hired by UNDP for 15 months. The function of these supervisors has been to study the needs of the kindergartens, prepare refresher courses, and provide appropriate guidance.

PAL/79/008 - Development and strengthening of health institutions

Activities: Medical equipment has been provided to five hospitals and clinics in the Gaza Strip, including a complete orthopedic theatre and five hospitals and one nursing training school in the West Bank.

PAL/79/009 - Specialized training in agricultural development

- Activities:
- (a) Reproduction equipment provided to the Agricultural Departments in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
 - (b) Specialized training arranged for 12 individuals in different agricultural fields. Original workplan fulfilled but it is planned to provide eight additional fellowships.

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PAL/79/018 - Children's institutions

Activities: This project consists of four sub-projects. In addition to fellowships, other inputs have been implemented as follows:

- (a) Instructors and equipment have been provided for training courses in vocational rehabilitation for disabled youth in the Gaza Strip.
- (b) Same as above for the West Bank.
- (c) Renovation of buildings, recruitment of instructors and provision of equipment for two vocational rehabilitation centres for adolescents in auto repairs and domestic science.

II. ONGOING PROJECTS

PAL/79/005 - Promotion of technical and vocational education

Activities: This project comprises four sub-projects, as follows:

- TV and radio repairs - Gaza Strip
- TV and radio repairs - West Bank
- Air conditioning, refrigeration and domestic appliances repairs - Gaza Strip
- Hair dressing (Ladies') - Gaza Strip.

Construction has been completed. Specialized equipment has been procured. Recruitment of instructors will be completed in early July 1983. Classes are scheduled to begin on 1 September 1983.

PAL/79/007 - Health manpower development

Activities: This project provides for fellowships in specialized medical fields. To date two fellowships in public health have been completed. One fellow in urology and one in medical equipment maintenance are in the process of completing their studies.

III. PIPELINE PROJECTS (COMING ON LINE)

- PAL/79/005 - Promotion of technical vocational education (Phase II)
- PAL/79/007 - Health manpower development (Phase II)
- PAL/79/010 - Agricultural training centres
- PAL/79/002 - Specialized training in industrial management; Fellowships in management
- PAL/79/014 - Training in housing; Fellowships in housing and training skilled construction workers
- PAL/79/016 - Youth programme; Fellowships in youth leadership and equipment

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PAL/79/017 - Women's institutions; Fellowships, training in social services
PAL/83/004 - Agricultural high schools; Development of two agricultural schools in
El-Aroub and Tulkarem

- Medical services training centre - West Bank; construction of \$1 million facility
- Training in anaesthesiology - West Bank and Gaza; 20 fellowships for graduate training
- Development of olive oil laboratory - West Bank

I. World Food Programme (WFP)

89. During its 20 years of existence, the Programme has committed more than \$5.3 billion worth of assistance to 1,152 development projects in 114 developing countries. About 55 per cent of those commitments has gone to supporting projects which directly contribute to food and agricultural production, 34 per cent to projects for the development of human resources and 11 per cent for economic and social infrastructure projects.

90. It is estimated that about 170 million people have benefited from both WFP development and emergency assistance over the past 20 years. Of that total, about 70 million people have benefited through various types of WFP-assisted development projects, while over 100 million have received emergency assistance through 612 operations in 103 countries, involving about \$1.1 billion worth of food aid. About 51 per cent of this emergency food aid has gone to refugees and displaced persons in man-made disaster situations, 31 per cent to people affected by food shortages caused by drought and 18 per cent to the victims of sudden, natural disasters.

1. Assistance to the Palestinian people through emergency operations

91. The plight of the Palestinian people has always been one of the concerns of WFP. As far back as 1976, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was invited to be represented at meetings of WFP's governing body, CFA, and has since then been invited on a regular basis.

92. Food assistance to date to the Palestinian people has been provided to refugees under the emergency operations procedure, through Jordan in 1971 and Syria in 1977, 1982 and 1983 as follows:

(a) In 1971, following an appeal made by UNRWA to alleviate its financial difficulty and a request presented by the Jordanian Government for assistance to the Palestinian refugees in Jordan, WFP supplied 13,800 tons of food (mostly wheat flour and edible oil) for distribution to 330,000 Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA in that country. This emergency operation was carried out successfully by UNRWA, as executing agency on behalf of the Jordanian Government. The total cost to WFP was \$2 million;

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(b) In 1977, at the request of the Syrian Government, WFP supplied 5,000 tons of wheat flour for distribution to 100,200 Palestinian refugees living in camps in different provinces of Syria. Once more UNRWA was designated as executing agency, this time by the Syrian Government. The total cost of WFP was \$1,460,000;

(c) In June-July 1982, an estimated 14,000 people from Lebanon, many of them women and young children, sought refuge in Syria. About half of these refugees (including Lebanese and Palestinians not registered with UNRWA, and returning Syrians) were in urgent need of emergency food aid. At the request of the Syrian Government, WFP supplied 340 tons of food (wheat flour, dried skim milk, edible oil and sugar) to provide basic rations for 7,000 of these refugees. The total cost to WFP was \$142,700;

(d) In June 1983 a new influx of refugees from Lebanon to Syria took place. Responding to a request by the Syrian Government, and following an assessment made by a WFP/UNHCR team, a further grant was approved under which WFP will provide assistance to 29,000 refugees including 4,000 Palestinians. The total cost of this grant to WFP was \$889,100.

2. Projects for development assistance to the Palestinian people

93. According to its mandate the World Food Programme is also able to consider providing assistance to Palestinians under development projects. The development of human resources projects might be more suitable to the Palestinians at present. Such projects comprise feeding vulnerable groups, e.g. feeding expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children; children in primary, and secondary schools; students in pre-vocational and vocational institutions; those in youth camps and on-the-job training and professional and technical institutions; those in literacy and adult education courses and patients and convalescents in hospitals.

94. In accordance with revised General Regulations of the Programme, the request for such assistance should be submitted officially by the host Government. It could also be submitted by PLO provided it contained the host country's official endorsement. The request, either from the host country or from PLO with the endorsement of the host country would follow the same procedure as any request submitted by recipient countries. The plan of operations, or the project agreement for development projects, would be signed by WFP and the host Government, with PLO nominated as executing agency if the request was directly submitted by the host Government; or by WFP and PLO, with the host Government's endorsement, if the Government concerned endorsed the request submitted by PLO. The project would be implemented under the responsibility of PLO in collaboration with the host Government if the Government ensured WFP that all terms and conditions of the plan of operation of the project agreement were met and observed.

95. The Programme has been helping all people in distress throughout the world and is always prepared to help the Palestinian people. Any request for assistance received through the appropriate channel will receive sympathetic consideration by the World Food Programme.

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J. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

96. When the UNHCR Statute was adopted, it was felt that refugees like Palestinian refugees who fell within the terms of reference of another United Nations agency, should be excluded from the High Commissioner's competence. Article 7 (d) of the Statute therefore provides that the competence of the High Commissioner shall not extend to a person who continues to receive from other organs or agencies of the United Nations protection or assistance. A similar provision is to be found in article 1 (d) of the 1951 United Nations Refugees Convention which, however, contains the following proviso:

"When such protection or assistance has ceased for any reason without the position of such persons being definitely settled in accordance with the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, these persons shall ipso facto be entitled to the benefit of this Convention."

97. UNHCR, in agreement with UNRWA, has taken the view that Palestinian refugees who find themselves outside the area of operations of UNRWA and who otherwise meet the refugee criteria are entitled to receive the protection and assistance which the Office provides to other refugees. In this way the Office has concerned itself with the fate of Palestinian refugees in many countries of the world whenever it has been called upon to do so.

98. Following the events in Lebanon in June 1982, the High Commissioner for obvious humanitarian reasons even went beyond the above-mentioned guidelines and decided to assist a group of victims in a refugee-like situation who had arrived in Syria from Lebanon, including a number of Palestinians not registered with UNRWA.

K. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

1. Mandate

99. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East was established by General Assembly resolution 302 IV of 8 December 1949, to carry out, in collaboration with local Governments, direct relief and works programmes for the Palestine refugees. The Agency was established without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 III of 11 December 1948 which provided that "the refugees wishing to return to their home and live at peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date, and that compensation should be paid for the property of those choosing not to return and for loss of or damage to property which, under principles of international law or in equity, should be made good by the Government or authorities responsible". The works programmes originally envisaged were not implemented, in part because they were seen as contingent upon the prior implementation of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 III which, to this date, remains unimplemented. The General Assembly has renewed the Agency's mandate 10 times, most recently by resolution 35/13 A of 30 November 1980 by which UNRWA's mandate was extended until 30 June 1984, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 III.

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2. Activities on behalf of the Palestine refugees

100. Since May 1950, UNRWA has been providing education, health and relief services to Palestine refugees. At 31 December 1982, 1,941,791 refugees were registered with UNRWA of whom 1,570,168 were eligible for some or all of UNRWA's services. UNRWA provides services to refugees in Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Jordan and the occupied territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

101. Although there has been no census of Palestinians, the registered refugees are believed to be more than half the total Palestinian people. Consequently, UNRWA is a major provider of education, health and welfare services to the Palestinian people. These services have evolved over the years in direct response to the needs of the refugees and the Agency's financial ability to meet them. By the end of 1982, about \$2.2 billion had been expended by UNRWA on assistance to Palestine refugees. The education services were operated in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the health services in co-operation with the World Health Organization (WHO).

102. Immediately after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June 1982, UNRWA organized an emergency assistance programme to aid those Palestinian refugees directly affected. Emergency relief was not restricted to Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA but was extended to all refugees in need of assistance. At the end of December 1982, 175,390 refugees in Lebanon and 8,154 refugees who had fled to Syria (including 6,460 refugees in Lebanon not registered with UNRWA) were being provided with food, blankets, clothing, kitchen kits and tents or cash to repair their damaged shelters. UNRWA has cleared camp sites of rubble, repaired damaged sewers, laid new water pipes and provided new road beds in existing camp sites. Schools have been reopened and the enrolment is almost back to the pre-invasion level. In the case of Ein el-Hilweh camp, Sidon, this includes classes operating on a triple-shift basis in large tents. A special emergency health programme has been implemented in the affected areas, including repair of damaged health facilities and their gradual reactivation; provision of milk and hot meals to the vulnerable groups; and rehabilitation of damaged sanitation facilities in camps. UNRWA organized similar emergency programmes for refugees affected by war in 1956 and again in 1967.

103. The regular programmes are fully described in the annual reports of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA. An account of the programme in 1982 is contained in the report covering the period from 1 July 1981 to 30 June 1982. 3/ In brief, in the 1981/82 school year, 338,386 children received elementary and preparatory (lower secondary) education in 645 UNRWA schools; 7,092 pupils were assisted with their secondary education at local government or private schools 4/; some 5,188 trainees followed vocational or teacher training courses at eight UNRWA centres; 351 students were awarded scholarships for university study; modest programmes of pre-school, youth and womens' activities and adult craft training were conducted; and professional in-service training was provided for medical and education personnel. Medical services were available to about 1.6 million refugees and supplementary feeding for such vulnerable groups as young children, pregnant women and nursing mothers. In the camps, UNRWA provided environmental sanitation and assistance with repairs to housing of families in special need. Special

assistance, including basic food items, was given to the most needy families. The total cost of financing the services in 1982 was \$234.7 million. In this total sum the extraordinary costs for the Lebanon emergency are included which amounted to \$51.8 million, accounting for 22 per cent of the total expenditure. The programmes were carried out by 16,782 employees, mostly teachers, all but a handful of whom are themselves Palestinian refugees, under the direction of 120 international staff.

104. The prime determinant of the Agency's ability to meet the needs of the refugees is the level of its financial resources. Given the funds, there are many projects which the Agency would implement to enhance the opportunities for refugees to become self-supporting, to improve the quality of services and to cater for the special needs of those with particular handicaps. Unfortunately, as the Agency has pointed out repeatedly over the years, income is insufficient to maintain even the minimum services at the established levels. In 1982, the Agency's income fell short by \$66.4 million of the budget of \$248.3 million. A related problem is that the level of income is not known sufficiently far in advance to permit smooth planning.

105. The shortfall in cash income has repeatedly threatened the Agency's education programme. The General Assembly of the United Nations decided in March 1982 that Governments which had been giving contributions in the form of commodities should be asked to convert them into cash or should allow UNRWA to sell them for cash. With this change in prospect the decision was taken to phase out the basic ration programme, which no longer had the priority it once had had. Education and health services are more important to the Palestinian refugees of today, apart from emergency situations such as that which has arisen in Lebanon, where the emergency distribution of foodstuffs was implemented. UNRWA continues, however, to attach value to its special programmes for feeding mothers and small children, poverty-stricken families, the disabled and trainees on residential courses:

106. Nevertheless, within the financial constraints, a limited number of improvements were possible that were of a nature to enhance the efficiency with which services met refugees' needs or to enrich an existing programme. The information given below, although not exhaustive, illustrates the work carried out by UNRWA.

107. In 1982, expenditure on the education programme increased by 6 per cent over 1981, from \$104.5 million to \$110.5 million, accounting for 47.1 per cent of total expenditure. The major item of additional outlay was on the school programme, which expands each year to cater for the growing school population. In 1981/82 the new intake included 3,000 pupils more than in 1980/81 and some 142 additional teachers were appointed. Most UNRWA school buildings are operated on a double-shift basis to cope with the numbers of pupils. Some of the buildings urgently require replacement. During 1982, \$3.8 million were allocated to construct 130 class and administrative rooms and 22 specialized units to replace some of the most unsatisfactory rented school premises. In addition \$524,000 were provided to construct 29 classrooms and one specialized room to avoid triple shifts. The significant developments in education referred to in previous reports continued to be implemented in the 1981/82 school year.

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108. Health services accounted for \$33.9 million for 14.4 per cent of total expenditure, an increase of 8 per cent over 1981. The quality of the medical and dental services provided at the health centres is under continuing review. Specialist clinics treat tuberculosis, diabetes, cardiovascular disorders, dermatological and rheumatic complaints and eye diseases. An additional number of small clinical laboratories attached to health units were equipped to perform biochemical tests previously referred to central laboratories. Special attention was focused on the level of nutrition among infants and young children and their mothers. In response to the high prevalence of diarrhoeal diseases among small children, particularly in summertime, the Agency operates 55 nutrition rehabilitation clinics.

109. Elsewhere in its area of operations, the Agency has been able to participate to a limited extent in self-help camp sanitation projects carried out by the refugees to construct drains and pathways in camps to connect sewage systems to local networks, and to continue the provision of private water connections and latrines to those families still without them. The schemes have been undertaken with the co-operation of the local municipal and governmental authorities.

110. The third category of service, the relief programme, involved expenditure in 1982 of \$31.3 million, compared with \$36.4 million in 1981, accounting for 13.3 per cent of the total expenditure. The assistance provided by the relief programme comprises shelter and welfare assistance. The latter is concentrated on the sector of the refugee population which is the most needy: widows, orphans, the aged, the physically and mentally handicapped, etc. This category of refugees, known as "special hardship cases", has been provided with rations in Jordan, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip since 1978. In 1981 the programme began to be extended to Lebanon and plans were laid to extend it to Syria in 1983. By the end of 1982, some 42,000 persons were benefiting from this food programme.

3. Future activities

111. Should the General Assembly, at its forthcoming session, decide to renew UNRWA's mandate for a further period beyond 30 June 1984, the Agency will continue to provide services to the Palestinian refugees within the limits set by the level of resources made available to it by the international community.

L. United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

112. UNFPA approved a project implemented by ECWA in 1978 in the amount of \$100,000 for the recruitment of a census expert for two years. The expert was to compile an inventory of data on Palestinians and make necessary arrangement with Arab countries concerned for including relevant and uniform questions on the Palestinians in the 1980 round of censuses in the Arab world. In March 1979 an additional allocation of \$105,000 was issued for the formation of a six-member advisory committee to assist the census expert in obtaining the co-operation of Arab countries hosting Palestinians.

113. UNFPA also approved another project for one year from July 1980 to July 1981 in the amount of \$337,800 with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development as an executing agency. The project stipulates, among other things, that demographic surveys be conducted in some Arab countries. UNFPA stands to review any requests for committed support activities designed to improve the social and economic conditions of the Palestinian Arab people. It is suggested that the procedures developed by UNDP should also be applied for UNFPA projects. ECWA could be the implementing agency as in the case of ECWA-executed project on the census of the Palestinian Arab people. A further possibility is to receive requests directly from the Arab countries concerned. UNFPA will continue co-operation with the United Nations agencies to support projects designed to help the Palestinian people.

II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

A. International Labour Organisation (ILO)

114. The most recent resolution of the International Labour Conference on this question is the resolution concerning the implications of Israeli settlements in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories in connection with the situation of Arab workers, adopted at the sixty-sixth session in June 1980. With respect to ILO action, this resolution particularly noted in the fifth paragraph of its preamble the "resolution No. IX of 1974 concerning the policy of discrimination and violation of trade union freedoms and rights practised by the Israeli authorities in Palestine and in the other Occupied Arab territories". Following the 1974 resolution, reports on the situation of workers in the occupied Arab territories have been submitted annually to sessions of the Conference, beginning in 1978, as annexes to the reports of the Director-General. The 1980 resolution confirmed this practice in operative paragraph 6, specifically requesting the Director-General "to submit annual reports to the Conference on the situation of Arab workers in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories".

115. Each of these annual reports is prepared on the basis of a mission undertaken by ILO officials to examine on the spot the situation in the field of labour and employment. The mission conducts interviews among Israeli government, employer and worker circles, as well as with authoritative persons and representatives of Palestinian employers and workers (and those of the other occupied Arab territories) which the mission meets privately. Since 1981, preparatory missions have also taken place in the Arab countries directly affected by the occupation of these territories, with the objective of consulting government, employers and worker circles in these countries and Palestinian organizations which are located there.

116. Thus, in March 1983, a sixth mission, comprising three ILO officials, made an on-the-spot examination of the situation of workers of the occupied Arab territories and in Israel. The report of the mission reviews the steps taken by the Israeli authorities following the recommendations made by the previous missions and considers the various aspects of equality of opportunity and treatment for workers of the occupied Arab territories, with regard to employment and

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development, general working conditions and social benefits and exercise of trade union rights as well as the implications of the Israeli settlements with regard to the situation of Arab workers of the occupied territories. The mission again elaborated a certain number of recommendations on these questions. The report of the mission appears in appendices to the Director-General's report submitted to the International Labour Conference at its sixty-ninth session (June 1983) 5/. The Director-General will continue to submit reports to the International Labour Conference on this subject.

117. The 1980 resolution also requested the Governing Body and the Director-General of the ILO "to provide all types of assistance and support to Arab citizens in Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories to strengthen their economic and technical capabilities and to counteract the effects of the Israeli occupation and settlement policy". Various programmes had already been undertaken in the field of assistance to the workers of the occupied Arab territories and these have since been developed further.

118. In this respect 6/, the ILO is endeavouring to contribute to the UNDP programme of assistance to the Palestinian people, within the framework of the principle concerning the direct implementation by UNDP of technical assistance projects in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem. The ILO offered the services of its experts in implementing the UNDP projects, and the agreement of the parties concerned was obtained in this respect. Of the six projects falling within the ILO's competence which were identified by the inter-agency task force in 1979, two projects were selected for implementation during UNDP's first programming cycle, namely the promotion of vocational and technical education, particularly for women, and specific training in industrial management. As a first step and in accordance with the agreement, an ILO expert joined the UNDP team which visited Israel and the occupied territories in December 1982. The purpose of the ILO expert's consultancy mission was to review and assess the present activities of the Palestinian women's institutions and community development centres and to formulate work plans and project designs for the promotion of vocational training opportunities for women. The expert's recommendations for technical assistance are included in the overall UNDP programme of assistance in the West Bank and Gaza.

119. The mission sent to Israel and the occupied Arab territories had indicated to the Israeli authorities that the Director-General of ILO was prepared to send an expert to study, on the spot, existing training facilities and to draw up recommendations about ways of strengthening existing autonomous institutions, like the Polytechnic Institute of Hebron, and developing technical skills at the intermediate level. The ILO has recently submitted the candidature of an ILO adviser in the field of vocational training to carry out this study.

120. In the 1982-1983 biennium, an additional credit out of the ILO's regular budget has been allocated to finance specific technical assistance projects for the population of the occupied territories, including the award of training fellowships. Unfortunately, no fellowships were implemented in 1982, but action is now being taken to reactivate the fellowship component of ILO assistance to the Palestinian people. The ILO has offered to the Director of the Hebron Polytechnic Institute to finance a number of training fellowships and internships at the

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International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training in Turin for the teaching staff and high-level professors of the Institute. Candidates have recently been proposed and it is to be hoped that the programme will be carried out in the course of 1983.

121. The ILO is also considering providing technical assistance to Palestinian production workshops located outside the occupied Arab territories which engage in activities in various fields (foodstuffs, clothing, plastics, leather, printing, etc.) aimed at providing training and jobs for young Palestinians. The possibilities of furnishing assistance to these units, in co-operation with the Turin Centre, are currently being examined.

B. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

122. Resolution 2100 (LXIII) was brought to the attention of the FAO Council at its seventy-second session, held in Rome from 8 to 11 November 1977 and to the attention of the FAO Conference at its nineteenth session, held in Rome from 12 November to 1 December 1977.

123. The Council and Conference were informed that an alternative programme of action had been prepared, with a view to its discussion with the Chairman of the Palestine National Fund according to the wishes expressed by the Palestine Liberation Organization in November 1975, who, as reported in the Report of the Secretary-General to the sixty-third session of the Economic and Social Council (E/6005), had been invited by the Director-General to visit Rome.

124. The Director-General had two meetings in Rome with the Chairman of Palestine National Fund, on 21 November 1977 and on 6 March 1978, and discussed ways in which FAO could initiate a programme of assistance to the Palestinian people.

125. Three specific possibilities were discussed:

(a) Attendance by Palestinian specialists at the Near East Workshop on Agricultural Investment Projects, organized in Rome from 9 January to 3 February 1978;

(b) The granting of FAO fellowships to Palestinian technicians for studies in fields related to food and agriculture, including forestry and fisheries; and

(c) The involvement of FAO in the feasibility study for the establishment of a Palestinian Open University, recently initiated by UNESCO, in co-operation with PLO and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

126. Three Palestinian specialists did indeed participate in the above-mentioned Near East Workshop. The Workshop was organized in response to the support of a proposal of the Director-General, expressed by member nations attending the thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East. The purpose of the Workshop was to inform government officials concerned of modern investment practices from

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identification through evaluation and to analyse case studies relevant to the Near East region. The Workshop had 57 participants, including 47 fellows from 20 countries. Follow-up included possible FAO support for in-service training and projects for eventual submission to interested donors.

127. The provision of FAO fellowships to Palestinian specialists has been arranged in consultation with the Chairman of the Palestine National Fund. Subject to the submission of a formal request and the nomination of suitable candidates, it had been envisaged to provide this assistance under FAO's Technical Co-operation Programme.

128. In October 1978, a \$61,000 project was approved, granting five one-year fellowships to Palestinian trainees in various fields of food and agriculture.

129. In December 1978 another project was approved, for an amount of \$10,000 to provide the co-operation of the Organization to the Palestine National Fund for the compilation of agricultural data in the West Bank and Gaza areas.

130. During the first half of 1979, FAO participated in the two Inter-Agency meetings organized by UNDP in Geneva on 15 and 16 February and 30 April to 1 May, respectively, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 33/147. It also participated, through the assignment of a senior consultant, in the work of the mission which an Inter-Agency Task Force, assembled by UNDP, carried out from 2 March to 10 April 1979 to study the economic and social needs of Palestinian people. This mission led to the identification and preliminary formulation of a number of technical assistance projects, several of which fall within the field of competence of FAO.

131. As a result, in June of that year the UNDP Governing Council approved 18 projects which had been identified for a total UNDP contribution of \$3.5 million. Of these projects, four were in agriculture and involved FAO in their identification. The projects were: (a) Specialized training programme in agricultural development (fellowships and study tours costing \$200,000); (b) Strengthening and development of Moussa Almi farm (feasibility study of development potential costing \$6,000); (c) Consultants for the establishment of a Faculty of Agriculture in the West Bank or Gaza (\$50,000) and; (d) Agricultural training centres for Palestinian farmers (\$200,000).

132. In 1982 FAO was involved only in the execution of the latter project (PAL/79/010). FAO participated in the pre-formulation mission for this project in December 1981.

133. Under the Technical Co-operation Programme, a new project for the compilation and tabulation of agricultural data in the West Bank and Gaza areas was approved in February 1981 with a total cost of \$30,000. Another project, for specialized training in agricultural development (approved in 1978), received an additional allocation of \$67,500 in 1981 and was split into two sub-projects in order to provide for necessary additional language training. A third project, designed to provide assistance in agricultural planning, was approved in 1981 for an amount of \$21,000.

134. During the period 1982-1983 FAO assistance to the Palestinian people took the form of projects designed (a) to improve the technical skills of Palestine refugee students in specialized agricultural fields; and (b) to improve agricultural training facilities in two Palestine refugee camps in Syria. The details of these projects are as follows:

(a) Specialized training in agricultural development

135. This is a project of the FAO Technical Co-operation Programme with a budget of \$84,000. It provides for the award of three fellowships for university graduates over a 23-month period ending in September 1983.

136. The objective is to provide the required means for improving and updating the technical skill of three university graduates in animal husbandry, soil science and plant protection through intensive training programmes. Only the fellowship in soil science has been taken up so far. Commencement of the other two fellowships has been postponed twice because the nominees have been unable to proceed. Replacement nominees have been requested.

137. This follows a similar project which provided three fellowships in botany, food technology and agricultural engineering. These training courses were completed in September 1982.

(b) Agricultural training centre

138. FAO is the executing agency to this project which has a budget of \$356,000 provided from UNDP Programme Reserve.

139. The project document was signed on 7 May 1982, but commencement of activities was held up pending the appointment of a National Project Co-ordinator, which is expected to take place soon.

140. The project has a duration of two years. Its objective is to assist the Palestinian families in the Gilline and Ramadan refugee camps in Syria to improve production and the efficiency of crop and livestock farmers and producers by providing facilities, knowledge, skills, material inputs and technical leadership for demonstration and training work.

141. The Palestine Liberation Organization, in its capacity as representative of the Palestinian people, has been invited to attend the FAO conferences and councils and other meetings such as the Committee on World Food Security, the FAO Regional Conference for the Near East and technical meetings such as FAO/UNDP Workshop on the Improved Utilization of Feed Resources for Sheep Fattening in the Near East, the twelfth session of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Near East, the Workshop on Strengthening Agricultural Marketing Training in the Near East and North Africa.

C. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

I. UNESCO's mandate

142. UNESCO, as a specialized agency of the United Nations system, contributes through its activities to the implementation of various General Assembly resolutions relating to assistance to the Palestinian people and especially to the Palestine refugees. At its seventeenth session in 1972, the General Conference adopted, as one of its general resolutions, a resolution entitled "UNESCO's contribution to peace and its tasks with respect to the elimination of colonialism and racialism" (resolution 10.1) in which it requested the Director-General to assemble information by all means at his disposal on the national education and the cultural life of the population in the occupied Arab territories. In a resolution entitled "Preservation and development of sites and monuments" (resolution 3.422) adopted at the same session (1972), the General Conference invited the Director-General to continue his efforts to establish the effective presence of UNESCO in Jerusalem. Furthermore, at its eighteenth session, in 1974, the General Conference adopted a general resolution entitled "Access by the populations of the occupied Arab territories to national education and culture" (resolution 13.1).

143. Under the programme and budget for 1981-1983 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-first session (1980), UNESCO's mandate with respect to assistance to the Palestinian people is recalled in the following general and specific resolutions:

General resolution on the education programme (resolution 1.01);

Resolution entitled "UNESCO's contribution to peace" (resolution 10.1);

Resolution entitled "Educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories" (resolution 14.1);

Resolution entitled "Education for refugees" (resolution 1.04);

Resolution entitled "Palestinian Open University" (resolution 1.06);

General resolution on the programme for culture and communication (resolution 4.01);

Resolution on the preservation of cultural property in Jerusalem (resolution 4.14).

II. Activities undertaken by UNESCO in behalf of the Palestinian people

144. As part of objective 1.4, concerning aid to refugees and to national liberation movements and included in the programme and budget for 1981-1983, efforts were undertaken to meet, within UNESCO's areas of competence, the needs of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which is recognized by the League of Arab States.

145. In the area of assistance to in-school and out-of-school education for refugees and for candidates proposed by PLO, UNESCO took a number of steps.

146. UNESCO continues to co-operate with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Under the agreement signed in 1966 between UNESCO and UNRWA, which was extended for the period 1981-1983, UNESCO assumes the technical, and UNRWA the administrative, responsibility for the education programme for Palestine refugees. UNESCO continues to second 20 specialist posts to the UNRWA/UNESCO Department of Education to plan and supervise the operation of schools and technical and vocational training centres in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This assistance is intended specifically to provide a better designed and more effectively executed education programme for Palestine refugees.

147. Measures have been taken to ensure the effective implementation of resolution 21C/14.1, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its twenty-first session, regarding the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories in order to help the populations of those territories to exercise their rights to education and culture. Furthermore, the Director-General sent a mission to the occupied Arab territories from 21 March to 6 April 1982, with a mandate to determine the unsatisfied educational needs of the population in the occupied Arab territories and to put forward suggestions regarding the measures to be taken in that regard. The mission also made recommendations to the Director-General concerning various pedagogical, financial and administrative aspects of educational and cultural institutions with a view to improving the situation of those institutions in the occupied Arab territories. At the one-hundred-and-sixteenth session of the Executive Board (May-June 1983), the Director-General reported on the measures he had taken to implement resolution 21C/14.1 as well as on the results of the mission to the occupied Arab territories.

148. In the area of specialized training for supervisory personnel, study grants or scholarships were awarded to candidates proposed by PLO to enable them to receive specialized training in UNESCO's areas of competence. Furthermore, a feasibility study concerning the project for establishing a "Palestinian open university" was undertaken in co-operation with PLO and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

149. Under the development co-operation programmes financed by funds-in-trust, UNESCO has continued to co-operate with PLO in implementing operational education projects by granting scholarships and carrying out educational activities.

150. In the area of culture, in pursuance of resolutions 21C/4/01 on the programme for culture and communication and 21C/4/14 on the preservation of cultural property in Jerusalem adopted by the General Conference, UNESCO took steps to preserve the city and the site of Jerusalem and to ensure UNESCO's presence there. In accordance with those resolutions, the Director-General sent his personal representative, Mr. Raymond Lemaire, to Jerusalem from 5 to 12 April 1983 in order to prepare a general report on the state of the heritage of monuments of the city of Jerusalem. At the one-hundred-and-sixteenth session of the Executive Board, the

Director-General reported on the measures which he had taken to monitor on a continuing basis the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the General Conference and of the Executive Board concerning Jerusalem.

III. Future action

151. The second medium-term plan (1984-1989), adopted by the General Conference at its fourth special session in 1982, provides for a number of activities to give educational assistance to Palestine refugees. The General Conference adopted resolution 4 XC/2/02 concerning, inter alia programme II.6, relating to promotion of the right to education of specific groups, including action in behalf of refugees and national liberation movements.

152. Under the draft programme and budget for 1984-1985, to be submitted to the General Conference at its twenty-second session, draft resolution 2.1 which concerns subprogramme II.6.2, on action in behalf of refugees and national liberation movements, invites the Director-General in particular: ... (ii) to continue to co-operate with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), as well as with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other agencies which provide educational aid to refugees and to national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which is recognized by the League of Arab States, in stepping up activities aimed at training supervisory personnel for these movements.

153. Under the same subprogramme II.6.2, UNESCO will continue to co-operate with UNRWA in the education programme for Palestine refugees in the Near East. UNESCO's educational assistance to PLO will be strengthened and geared on a priority basis towards implementation of the right to education. Its aim will be to contribute to the development and improvement of activities undertaken in co-operation with UNRWA under the education programme for Palestine refugees in the Near East. UNESCO's action will be directed towards improving programme content and methods and adopting them to the needs of the Palestine refugees. Training seminars will be organized to promote pre-school and adult education for the Palestine refugees.

154. The educational activities will be extended to specialized training in UNESCO's areas of competence intended for candidates proposed by PLO in order to train personnel who might be called upon to assume responsibilities in their country when independence has been achieved.

155. As regards the situation of educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories, the necessary measures will continue to be taken to enable the Director-General to implement resolution 14.1 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-first session.

156. UNESCO will give its support to the execution, in co-operation with the parties concerned and at their request, of the project for establishing a Palestinian open university. It will also help to carry out the feasibility study with a view to establishing the "University of Jerusalem for Palestine Refugees".

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157. Specific actions may be taken in the light of the decisions of the United Nations International Conference on the Question of Palestine (1983).

D. World Health Organization (WHO)

158. In 1973 the World Health Assembly considered that the need for gathering and verifying facts on health conditions of the inhabitants of the occupied territories required a comprehensive field investigation and contact with all parties directly concerned. In its resolution WHA26.31, the World Health Assembly established the Special Committee of Experts with the mandate to study the health conditions of the inhabitants of the occupied territories in the Middle East in all their aspects. The experts of the Committee were appointed by three countries chosen by the WHO Executive Board, namely Indonesia, Romania and Senegal.

159. In resolution WHA29.69 adopted in May 1976, the World Health Assembly requested the Special Committee as such to visit the occupied Arab territories to carry out its mandate and in particular to:

(a) Investigate the physical, mental and social conditions of the Arab population in all the occupied territories;

(b) Investigate the physical and mental conditions of the administrative detainees and prisoners;

(c) Contact directly the Arab population under Israeli occupation, their social representatives and their humanitarian societies in order to collect first-hand information on the health conditions of the said population, and to be informed about their health and requirements.

160. The first visit of the Special Committee took place in August 1978. Its report was submitted to the World Health Assembly in May 1978 in document A/31/37. The report was based on (a) observations made on the spot by the Committee; (b) the examination of documents made available to the Committee by the Israeli and Arab authorities; and (c) interviews with doctors, other health workers and members of the Arab population.

161. The report describes the technical aspects (infrastructure, drugs and equipment, personnel and services offered), administrative aspects (structure, conditions of employment) and social aspects (health insurance, social conditions for health staff, prisons, Palestine Red Crescent).

162. Following a decision by the World Health Assembly in May 1979 a second visit by the Special Committee took place in 1980. The Committee's report was submitted to the World Health Assembly in May 1980 in document A/33/21.

163. In this report the Committee had tried to bring together a number of elements which in its view could contribute to improving the health status of the Arab population of the occupied territories visited. The Committee also made certain recommendations and requested WHO to strengthen the assistance it has already instituted for those territories in the past.

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164. A third visit of the Special Committee took place in 1981 following a resolution adopted by the Health Assembly in May 1980 (WHA33.18) in which it requested "the Special Committee to continue its task with respect to all implications of occupation and the policies of the occupying Israeli authorities and their various practices which adversely affect the health conditions of the Arab inhabitants in the occupied Arab territories and Palestine, and to submit a report to the thirty-fourth World Health Assembly, bearing in mind all the provisions of this resolution, in co-ordination with all parties concerned".

165. In its report to the Health Assembly in May 1981 the Committee followed the definition of the word "health" given in WHO's Constitution that is "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity". It used mainly the following official WHO indicators: health indicators; socio-economic indicators of factors hampering or influencing the health sector; indicators of health services delivery; and indicators of the state of health of the population.

166. A fourth visit of the Special Committee took place in April 1982 as requested by the World Health Assembly in resolution WHA34.19 of May 1981.

167. The report of the Committee which was submitted to the thirty-fifth World Health Assembly in May 1982 begins with an analysis of the socio-economic situation, goes on to examine health policies with particular reference to primary health care and then reviews the health situation, before making recommendations aimed at improving health management for the benefit of the health of the people.

168. The Health Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue its task under the mandate given to it.

169. The Special Committee visited the occupied territories again in April 1983. In its report submitted to the thirty-sixth session of the World Health Assembly, the Committee considered health policies, the socio-economic situation and aspects concerning the health status of the population. It made recommendations for improving the services.

170. The Health Assembly again requested the Special Committee "to continue its task with respect to all implications of occupation and the policies of the occupying Israeli authorities and their various practices which adversely affect the health conditions of the Arab inhabitants in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine, and to report to the thirty-seventh World Health Assembly" (resolution WHA36.27).

171. The activities and programmes undertaken by WHO to assist the Palestinian people express the long-standing concern of WHO for the health situation of the Palestine populations, both in the occupied territories and in the neighbouring countries. These activities are described below.

172. In response to resolution 2100 (LXIII) of the Economic and Social Council, the following action was taken by WHO in 1982. It will be noted from certain of the activities mentioned below that the Organization has maintained its close collaboration with UNRWA.

173. In June 1982 a member of the WHO staff, competent in the field of maternal and child health, visited the West Bank and Gaza to identify risk factors in women during pregnancy and childbirth and to evaluate the impact of oral rehydration on the nutritional status of children aged 6-23 months attending the Gaza clinics. A follow-up visit is expected to start shortly to discuss further the proposed study of the effectiveness of maternal care services provided by the UNRWA/MCH centres in Gaza and the West Bank, and to extend the risk approach in MCH/FP to other UNRWA clinics. The Organization made a financial contribution to launch a training programme for traditional birth attendants in Gaza and the West Bank. A supply of 100,000 doses of tetanus toxoid and 85,000 disposable syringes were also made available for the prevention of tetanus neonatorum.

174. With regard to the control of diarrhoeal diseases, the Organization has continued to support a study of the effect of mass use of oral rehydration on the reduction of mortality in children under five years in Gaza. The results of the study are being analysed and will be published shortly. WHO has agreed to sponsor the training of 10 physicians and nurses from UNRWA staff in oral rehydration and it is hoped that this training will take place during 1983.

175. In connection with the WHO Expanded Programme of Immunization, during the period June-August 1982, one WHO consultant visited UNRWA camps to improve the cold chain system in the area and another took up an assignment to promote the school health programme in UNRWA.

176. The Organization has awarded fellowships to UNRWA staff in the fields of public health nursing and maternal and child health.

177. WHO allocated an annual grant to the Palestine Liberation Organization, as in the past, to assist with the payment of salaries for health technicians, medical specialists and administrators employed by the Palestine Red Crescent Society and an additional sum was provided to meet the cost of emergency medical supplies and equipment for Lebanon. The Organization also sent a staff member and a consultant nurse to the area to assist in the maintenance of health services.

178. The Special Committee of Experts, appointed by the World Health Assembly to study the health conditions of the inhabitants of the occupied territories in the Middle East, visited the territories again in April 1982. The Committee visited health and other infrastructure having an influence on the health of the populations and submitted a detailed report to the Health Assembly. Certain of the recommendations made by the Committee have received careful consideration on the part of the Organization and it is hoped that action will be taken shortly to implement them.

179. The Director-General was requested by the thirty-fifth World Health Assembly to establish health centres in the occupied Arab territories under the direct supervision of WHO. This project is now under consideration.

E. International Maritime Organization (IMO)

180. In October 1978 the IMO Council decided that the liberation movements recognized, inter alia, by the League of Arab States, should be invited as observers to IMO meetings and conferences. In November 1979 the IMO Assembly amended its rules of procedure in order to implement this decision. Since that date, observers from the Palestine Liberation Organization have attended IMO meetings and conferences.

181. Furthermore, IMO and UNRWA have agreed on a proposal under which States members of IMO would be requested to consider the possibility of either offering fellowships to Palestinian trainees in the maritime field or accepting such trainees in their national maritime academies. Under this proposal, offers would be made either to IMO or directly to UNRWA subject to arrangements to be agreed on at a later stage. It is hoped that the two secretariats will in the near future be able to formulate the necessary arrangements to implement this proposal.

F. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

182. The Director-General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has drawn the attention of the Governing Bodies of WIPO, at their November 1981 sessions, to Economic and Social Council resolution 2100 (LXIII) entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian People."

183. Under the 1982 WIPO Training Program, one fellowship was awarded in the field of industrial property to a candidate selected from a group of nine candidatures submitted by UNRWA.

184. An invitation to propose candidates for the 1983 WIPO Training Program in the field of copyright and industrial property was sent to the Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Geneva and to the Commissioner-General of UNRWA and the Secretary of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

185. The Director-General of WIPO was represented at the first ad hoc inter-agency meeting on the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 19 to 21 January 1983, and WIPO intends to be represented at the Conference which will be held in Geneva in August and September 1983.

186. The Director-General of WIPO was represented at the meeting held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 29 November 1982, to commemorate the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

187. The International Bureau of WIPO has informed the Permanent Observer of PLO that it remains at his disposal for further discussions concerning the establishment and implementation of concrete projects to ensure the improvement of the social and economic conditions of the Palestinian people, and that it looks forward to continued co-operation with PLO.

188. The International Bureau of WIPO has kept the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia informed of its activities for the benefit of the Palestinian people and will welcome any suggestions concerning the co-ordination of efforts, as mentioned in paragraph 1 of resolution 2100 (LXIII) of the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Notes

1/ For details of these recommendations see A/CONF.114/PC/9, A/CONF.114/PC/10, A/CONF.114/PC/11, A/CONF.114/PC/12.

2/ See TD/B/870, chap. IX.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/37/13).

4/ In Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. Elsewhere, all refugee pupils, enrolled in government secondary schools receive their education free of charge.

5/ International Labour Conference, Sixth-ninth Session 1983, Report of the Director-General, Appendices, appendix III, "Report on the situation of workers of the occupied Arab territories".

6/ The following information is adapted from that previously submitted to the Economic and Social Council, document E/1983/72, paras. 66-70.
