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ET SOCIAL

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3 March 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOURTH MEETING

Held in New York, at the Empire State Building, on Monday, 24 February 1947,  
at 10:00 a.m.

Present:

Chairman:	Dr. L. Rajchman	(Poland)
		(Brazil)
	Mrs. D. B. Sinclair	(Canada)
	Mr. P. Y. Tsao	(China)
	Mr. de Marolles	(France)
	Mr. Seyersted	(Norway)
	Mr. Kobushko	(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
	Mr. J. A. C. C. Alexander	(United Kingdom)
	Mr. Lindsay	(United Kingdom)
	Miss K. Lenroot	(United States)
Executive Director:	Mr. Maurice Late	
Secretary:	Mr. A. Delierneux	

1. Discussion of the Draft Report to be Submitted to the Economic and Social Council by the I.C.E.F.

The meeting was convened by the CHAIRMAN, Dr. Rajchman (Poland) who suggested that the Programme Committee discuss the draft report to be presented to the Economic and Social Council by the I.C.E.F. on the Programme and Estimate of Expenses for 1947.

The CHAIRMAN indicated that there seemed to be agreement concerning the Programme, however, it was very difficult to give estimate of expenses for 1947 at this time. The Chairman suggested an exchange of views among the members of the Programme Committee in discussing the report paragraph by paragraph.

\* This document has a restricted distribution at the request of the Programme Committee.

/s/ Mr. ALEXANDER

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Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) stated that he had only a few remarks to make. He stressed that in his opinion it would not be appropriate for the Secretariat to collect funds. In the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly, paragraph 4 (b) states that staff and facilities required for the administration of the Fund would be provided by the Secretary-General without charge to the Fund. It seemed to him that the letter addressed to the Governments did not quite convey this particular point.

Mr. PATE (Executive Director) reported on Fund raising. He repeated that UNRRA activities in European countries would soon come to an end and there would be an immediate need for food stuff in these countries. If the Ordning Plan is to be utilized it most certainly would take at least several months to raise money and nothing could be done until the end of the year 1947. In his opinion, help from governments should be asked and voluntary organizations should be contacted.

The Resolution pointed out that all possibilities of the Secretariat should be used. He indicated that use would be made of every department of the United Nations which could be arranged for part time work.

Mr. SEYERSTED (Norway) supported the Director's statement but he felt that programme could not be discussed before money had been raised. In his opinion, there were two ways of getting funds: from governments and from UNRRA. UNRRA has already been requested to state what will be the amount of money that will be given to the Fund. The answer received from UNRRA has not been very satisfactory. He felt that an urgent request should be made to UNRRA for an advance in order that the Fund could get started in its operation.

As far as the governments were concerned, the Fund should ask them to come to a quick decision, and on that point Mr. Seyersted suggested that the Fund might devise a scale of contributions indicating an estimate of how much money each government might contribute to the Fund. In his

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opinion, the Fund had to get money as quickly as possible, otherwise nothing could be done.

The CHAIRMAN stated that in his view, he did not think it wise to suggest to the governments how much they should contribute to the Fund, because all contributions are to be voluntary contributions. He understood that many governments were not in a position to make contributions at this time. However, some governments are in a position to contribute, and he hoped that these countries would reach a decision in the very near future. He indicated that some statements regarding contributions to the Fund might be made within the next few weeks by governments who were in a position to make contributions. At the two meetings of the Latin American members of the Board, several plans to raise money had been discussed. Also Mr. Lie, in his recent trip to the South American countries, had talked about the Fund and mentioned the Fund's needs.

Miss LENROOT (United States) reported that she had attended the meeting of the Sub-Committee when the Fund was under consideration and it was her understanding that according to Article 4 (b) of the Resolution the Secretariat would not provide full time workers to the Fund, but only part time workers. It was also her understanding that UNRRA might provide some funds to the ICEF, but she was sorry to learn not before the end of the year 1947.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) stated that in his opinion UNRRA might make an advance to ICEF but that nevertheless the Fund should proceed as soon as possible with voluntary contributions.

Mr. PATE (Executive Director) in reply to a question of Mrs. Sinclair (Canada) stated that according to the plan made at the January meeting of the Board a letter was sent to UNRRA inquiring about the amount of the residual assets which had been allocated by the UNRRA Central Committee to the ICEF. The letter was sent 23 January, the reply from UNRRA was negative. No funds could be provided before the end of the year as UNRRA was still a

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going concern and dispensing relief to different countries. In his opinion it was rather clear that nothing in the way of funds could be expected from UNRRA before the end of 1947.

The CHAIRMAN expressed his appreciation of the proposition made by the Delegate from the United Kingdom regarding an advance from UNRRA. The question of how much funds would remain when UNRRA terminates is a very difficult one. In regard to the UNRRA help for the European countries, all the purchases would be completed by the end of March 1947 and UNRRA will be able to ship only material for delivery at that time. It is not possible to say right now how many contracts will be completed by that time. It is expected that the Council of UNRRA will meet for the last time in early summer. In his opinion, this would be the time to approach UNRRA regarding the residual assets because certainly by this time UNRRA would have a more definite indication as to how much funds would be remaining. How large this will be, is anybody's guess at this time. Patience was needed until at least the end of May.

Mr. Ordning who is to report to the Economic and Social Council on the plan of collecting One Day's Pay for relief purposes will discuss with the Executive Board the merits of this plan at the next meeting of the Board. Such a drive for funds however could not get started before fall at the earliest.

The Programme Committee then started discussion of the report paragraph by paragraph.

After some discussion several amendments and changes were accepted by the Programme Committee and embodied in the report which was to be presented to the Executive Board for deliberation, at its next meeting.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stated that he had not been able to attend the preceding meeting and had not had the opportunity to study the report. He wished to reserve the right to

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discuss this matter in the future.

2. Discussion of the Letter of the Executive Director to the Chairman of ICEF

The CHAIRMAN proposed next that the members of the Programme Committee discuss a letter written by Mr. Pate to the Chairman of the Executive Board concerning purposes and policies of the Fund. After some discussion and a few minor changes in wording, the Programme Committee referred the letter to the Executive Board.

The meeting rose at 12:15 p.m.

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