

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE, ON THE TWENTY-SIXTH
AND TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETINGS, HELD AT LAKE SUCCESS,
4 NOVEMBER 1947

1. The Programme Committee held its twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh meetings on 4 November 1947 with the following agenda: 1. Available and Prospective Resources of the Fund, 2. Collaboration with the United Nations Appeal for Children, 3. Other business.

2. The following members of the Committee attended:

Chairman: Dr. Ludwik Rajchman	(Poland)
Mr. R. Campos	(Brazil)
Mrs. D. B. Sinclair	(Canada)
Mr. C. Hsiao	(China)
Dr. J. F. Mabileau	(France)
*Mrs. A. Licraes	(Norway)
Mr. A. P. Borisov	(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
Mr. J. A. C. C. Alexander	(United Kingdom)
Miss K. Lenroot	(United States)

Available and Prospective Resources of the Fund

3. On the basis of a report by the Executive Director, (E/ICEF/36), the Committee considered current and prospective resources of the Fund from contributions by governments, UNRRA, and private donations. The total resources of the International Children's Emergency Fund in cash, goods, and pledges were equivalent to \$31,056,000, of which \$25,393,000 or 82 percent, consisted of government contributions.

4. The Committee was gratified by the contributions, since its last meetings, from Iceland (\$40,000 in salt codfish and/or wool), Newfoundland (\$100,000 in cod liver oil), Switzerland (\$468,000 in Swiss francs) and the

* Mr. F. Seyersted, represented Norway for part of the twenty-seventh meeting.

/announcement

announcement from Poland of an allocation in sugar (the precise amount depending on the results of the sugar run just being started). It noted with satisfaction that Hungary, Italy and Poland have agreed to cover the costs of transit across their countries of ICEF supplies intended for other countries and that other receiving countries, where such facilities are usable, are expected to make similar arrangements.

5. Likewise gratifying to the Committee was the possibility that UNRRA might transfer further funds to the ICEF within the next few weeks.

6. The Committee was cognizant of the fact that resources from United Nations Appeal for Children, the success of which was so important to the programme of the Fund, would not be known before the late spring of 1948.

7. A detailed analysis, on a country by country basis, was presented to the Committee by the Chairman, the Executive Director, and members of the staff on contacts made and prospects for governmental contributions. The progress in, and plans for visits to Latin American countries were outlined.

Additional contributions may be forthcoming from a number of the governments which have already contributed, including the Dominican Republic, France, Luxembourg, Norway, Switzerland and the United States. Negotiations are under way with each of the Latin American Governments for contributions. In addition negotiations are being carried forward with representatives of the Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Lebanon, Liberia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Siam, Sweden, United Kingdom and the Union of South Africa. The analysis indicated good possibilities for contributions from a number of governments in the near future.

8. Nevertheless in analyzing the current and prospective resources of the Fund the Committee noted with concern that the present resources of the Fund will be exhausted at the end of the first six-month period. In order to maintain and enlarge the flow of ICEF supplies beyond that period, prompt action is required by governments in contributing, or pledging contributions, to the Fund. The Fund is currently short \$1,500,000 in contributions from donor governments to match, in the ratio of forty-three-fifty-seven per cent, the initial \$15,000,000 United States contribution. The Committee hopes that in addition to this sum, donor governments will contribute or pledge at least an equivalent of \$13,000,000 by 1 January 1948. If this target can be attained the Fund will be eligible for an additional \$17,000,000 from the United States. The Fund will then be able to plan with assurance for an additional six month period and will be well on its way of achieving its immediate goal of \$70,000,000 in governmental contributions.

9. The Committee concluded that the most serious problem currently confronting the Fund was that of obtaining immediately contributions or pledges from governments.

/Collaboration

Collaboration with the United Nations Appeal for Children

10. The Committee welcomed the opportunity of discussing with Mr. Aake Ording and Mr. Martin Hill the need for achieving better co-ordination between the administration of the ICEF and UNAC as part of the Secretariat. The representatives of the Secretariat and the Committee agreed that the closest possible co-ordination is necessary in order to avoid divergencies in policy approach and operations which might be damaging to United Nations policies. The dangers arising from inadequate co-ordination are enhanced by the fact that the general public does not distinguish between UNAC and ICEF.

It was recognized by all that there were no inherent obstacles to the achievement of a closer co-ordination than has hitherto been in effect.

11. The exchange of views was helpful in identifying areas and policy issues in which there was urgent need of achieving better methods of co-ordination. Illustrations were given of difficulties which have already arisen, or may arise, because of inadequate co-ordination on the following matters:

- (a) Facts and figures made public concerning needs of children and the programme of the ICEF.
- (b) Timing of the Appeal in each country.
- (c) Agreements between the Secretary-General and each country relating to the disposal of the proceeds of the Appeal.
- (d) Working relations between the two headquarters staffs.
- (e) Relation of UNAC field representatives to ICEF field representatives, especially in receiving countries.

12. It was the opinion of the Committee that all UNAC policies developed by the Secretary-General should be fully considered in the light of their relationship to, and effect upon, the policies, responsibilities, and operations of the ICEF. Certain of these policy issues were identified in the discussion. Although several representatives on the Committee expressed differing points of view on the policies most desirable, the Committee was in agreement that these issues illustrated the need for studied consideration and a co-ordinated approach on matters of policy. The following issues were believed to be urgently in need of solution:

- (a) To what extent is UNAC justified in emphasizing that it is for the benefit of all the under-privileged children of the world as against meeting emergency relief needs of children, as set forth in the Economic and Social Council Resolution establishing UNAC (E/410);
- (b) To what extent shall the Secretary-General permit Appeals under the aegis and title of the United Nations in which none of the proceeds, or only a token share, will be received by the ICEF with the bulk going
/to domestic relief

to domestic relief agencies and/or national foreign relief agencies? If such Appeals are permitted under the United Nations title, what conditions and safeguards should be required?

13. The Committee was glad to learn from the representatives of United Nations Secretariat that the question of convening the Special Committee of the Economic and Social Council at an early date "to assist the Secretary-General between sessions of the Council in the practical application of the policies relating to the United Nations Appeal for Children as set forth in the Council's resolutions." (E/584), was under consideration. It is suggested that the Secretary-General might find it useful to refer questions such as those indicated above to the Special Committee for advice.

14. The Committee was appreciative of the concern which the Secretary-General has expressed as to the importance of the fullest possible co-ordination of all activities of the Secretariat, and particularly of UNAC, in relation to ICEF. The Committee did not enter into any detailed discussion of methods, since it regards this as a matter which is essentially the responsibility of the Secretary-General.

Collaboration with the American International Institute for the Protection of Childhood

15. The attention of the Committee was called to the work of the American International Institute for the Protection of Childhood, an inter-governmental organization of American Republics concerned with all phases of the health, education and welfare of children. The Institute was created as a result of action by the Pan American Child Congresses. The Ninth Pan American Child Congress will be held in Caracas, Venezuela, on 5-10 January 1948. The Institute has been interested in child nutrition, and early in the war studied the possibilities of inter-American efforts in behalf of children in war-stricken countries.

16. After hearing these reports the Committee concluded that it would be important to develop close working relationships with the Institute, and approved the suggestion that discussions be held with officials of the Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay. These discussions would include exploration of the possibilities of co-operation with reference especially to technical assistance on certain nutrition and other health problems, with a view to presenting proposals for the consideration of the Executive Board at its next session.