



CF/RAD/USAA/DB01/1997-06715

Expected Number **CF/RAD/USAA/DB01/1997-06715**

External ID **E/ICEF/1953/R.0420**

Title

**Isra - MCW (Handicapped Children)**

Date Created  
**2/24/1953**

Date Registered  
**1/1/1997**

Date Closed

Primary Contact

Owner Location **Office of the Secretary, Executive Board OSEB = 3024**

Home Location **Office of the Secretary, Executive Board OSEB = 3024**

Current Location/Assignee **Record & Archive Manage Related Functions=80669443 since 3/19/2**

F12: Status Certain? **No**

F13: Record Copy? **No**

01: In, it, Internal Rec or Rec Copy

Contained Records  
Container

Doc Published Fd3: Doc Type - Format Da1:Date First Published Priority

Record Type **A04 DOC ITEM: E/ICEF 1946 TO 1997 EX BD**

Document Details **Record has no document attached.**

Notes

Document Format Series/Year/SubSeries/Number/Rev: **E/ICEF/1953/R.0420; Doc**

Series/SubSeries/Year/Number/Rev: **E/ICEF/R/1953/420**

Doc Series: **E/ICEF/R; Series Valid date on import: 01-Jan-1950; Doc Year: 1953; Doc Number: 0420; Doc Num**

Sh #: **420; Doc Revision #:**

Ensh, L.Avail: **E,F..; L.Orig: E-?**

Doc PDF or TIF: **Chk\_PDF: No; Chk\_PDF\_Prob: No; Comment:; Chk\_TIF: No; Chk\_TIF\_prob: No; TIF ID# Start**

= **TIF ID# end =**

Print Name of Person Submit Image

Signature of Person Submit

Number of images without cover

*Upasana*

*9 2-5*

Handwritten signature or scribble, possibly containing the letters "L" and "R".



UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

Programme Committee

RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
FOR APPROVAL OF A PLAN OF OPERATIONS  
FOR THE REHABILITATION OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN ISRAEL

In this paper the Administration requests authority to approve a plan of operations for a handicapped children's program for Israel. The total cost to ICEF will be \$20,000 which is available from medical and feeding allocations approved by the Executive Board prior to 1951. If this recommendation is approved it will be the first aid to Israel for this type of program.

Handicapped Children in Israel

The Government of Israel, in its maternal and child health program, has placed emphasis from the beginning on preventive rather than on curative measure campaigns against infectious diseases, disorders due to malnutrition, and the extension of maternal and child welfare services have been given priority in the child health program. Israel still has emergency requirements in the field of child health and welfare, but it is felt that the major effort must be focussed on the long range needs of the child population.

The physically and mentally handicapped child is one of the most serious child welfare problems in the country. While no exact statistics are available on the number of children affected by physical and mental disability, it is known that the mass immigration to Israel, with a majority coming from under-developed countries, produced a large increase in the number of children needing special care for handicaps. No immigrant was barred because of physical handicap.

An important cause of child handicaps is poliomyelitis which has been endemic in Israel for some years, but assumed epidemic proportions for the first time in the spring and summer of 1950. The number of cases fell during the autumn and winter of 1950/51, but an increase was reported in the following spring and summer. Twenty cases were reported monthly from the winter of 1951/52 until the end of July, 1952, the most vulnerable age group being from 10 to 30 months. 80% of the

(4-P)

ses were in the group below 5 years of age. The percentage of paralytic cases is exceptionally high as was the fatality rate. The generally approved measures are applied in the early stages of the epidemic with stress on early diagnosis. Diagnosis of non-paralytic cases and hospitalization of practically all reported cases in the infectious disease wards of the government hospitals of Haifa and Tel Aviv. UNICEF airshipped two iron lungs to Israel in May, 1950, to assist the Government in meeting the emergency. (E/ICEF/155, page 23)

Following is a statistical record of the polio epidemic and its results:

	1950	1951
Total number of cases	1,622	892
Cases of light paralysis	137	70
"    " medium    "	187	—
"    " serious    "	222	290
Percentage paralyzed	74%	No figures available
Recovered	737	—
Almost completely recovered	13	—
Number of deaths	224	164
Case fatality rate	14%	19%

#### Facilities for Care of the Handicapped

The concept of rehabilitation in its medical, vocational and educational and welfare aspects is well developed in Israel. Facilities and personnel for the quality care of the handicapped exist in hospitals, special rehabilitation and physical medicine departments and in sheltered workshops. But the demand for such services is so great that considerable expansion is needed - especially to meet the urgent requirements of handicapped children.

Ambulatory treatment is available in all large towns and special government sponsored out-patient clinics for polio patients have been established at the Sarafand Government Hospital, the Haifa Government Hospital, and in cooperation with the Hadassah Hospitals in Jerusalem and Beersheba. A special ward for the prolonged treatment of severely paralysed patients is maintained at the Government Hospital in Sarafand which operates under the supervision of paediatricians, physio-therapists and orthopaedists. At present 180 beds are available for children in need of institutional care during rehabilitation but this number is far from adequate.

#### Proposed Plan of Operations

A general rehabilitation centre is now being constructed at the Sarafand General Hospital near Tel-Aviv. In addition to treatment facilities, the centre will include a school for physiotherapy, various sections for vocational and classroom training, a social welfare section and a special polio wing. The

/ Government has

Government has succeeded in purchasing pre-fabricated buildings from Finland to use the centre.

The polio out patient department at the Sarafand Hospital will be transferred to the rehabilitation centre which will have a capacity to care for 50 outpatients per day of all types of physically handicapped. This department will be responsible for follow-up of children dismissed from the hospital as well as for polio cases requiring only ambulatory treatment. Children requiring out-patient care will be collected by bus and brought to the rehabilitation centre where they will be kept in a special day nursery pending treatment. For the large numbers of children requiring braces and splints, it is proposed to set up a work shop and fitting room for prosthetic appliances.

The present 35 polio beds at the Sarafand Hospital will also be transferred to the rehabilitation centre and a further 45 beds will be added for polio victims.

#### UNICEF Commitments

If this recommendation is approved, UNICEF will supply the following at an estimated cost of \$20,000:

- a) A bus to be used for the transportation of out-patients from the surrounding towns and villages to the rehabilitation centre and back.
- b) Equipment for the polio wing of the Sarafand rehabilitation centre, including electro- and hydro-therapy apparatus and equipment for the remedial exercise gymnasium.
- c) Tools and certain raw materials for making orthopaedic appliances.

#### WHO Participation and Technical Approval

WHO will provide from its regular budget the following in connection with establishment of the rehabilitation centre at Sarafand:

- a) international project personnel:
  - 1 physio-therapist in charge of the centre
  - 1 teacher of physio-therapy
- b) fellowships for the Government's director of the rehabilitation centre and for the director in charge of technical medicine

The estimated cost to WHO will be about \$22,000. UNICEF will not be asked to undertake any financial responsibility for personnel in connection with this programme.

The proposed programme for care of physically handicapped children in Israel was originally investigated by a special WHO consultant in the summer of 1952. Subsequent visits by UNICEF representatives and WHO advisers have contributed to shaping up the present plan of action which has the technical approval of WHO.

1 The plan has been reviewed by the U.N. Department of Social Affairs and  
h its agreement. The Eastern Mediterranean Area Social Welfare Adviser has also  
b been consulted and will cooperate further during its implementation.

Government Commitments

1 The Ministry of Health which has overall responsibility for this program  
w will purchase and erect pre-fabricated houses at Sarafand for the general rehabi-  
t lition centre. Provision will also be made by the Government for the maintenance  
o of adequate technical and lay staff. Hospitalization costs will be paid by the  
G overnment. Space and facilities will be made available for the prosthetic work-  
s shop and fitting room which will be staffed by trained local personnel. The cost  
o of the pre-fabricated buildings will be \$223,000, the estimated cost for erection  
a and installations \$280,000, a total of \$403,000 of which approximately 50% may be  
c considered as for handicapped children alone. Recurrent costs of the programme  
f for care of the handicapped children are estimated at Israel L 6 per bed per day  
f for 80 children's beds (\$16.86 per bed day) or an estimated annual cost of \$492,000.  
T The total cost to the Government therefore for initial investment and operating  
c costs for handicapped children would be approximately \$693,000 for the first year  
o of the programme.

Target Time Schedule

16 Construction of the rehabilitation centre is well advanced, and UNICEF  
s supplies will be put to use as soon as they can be delivered which is planned for  
e early summer 1953. A detailed plan of operations will be worked out during the  
s spring of 1953.

UNICEF Representation

17 UNICEF aided programmes in Israel will continue to be visited by persons  
f from the Eastern Mediterranean Area Office in Beirut.

Recommendation

18 The Administration requests authority to approve a plan of operations for  
a assistance to handicapped children in Israel as outlined above, and to utilize  
62,000 for this purpose from funds allocated by the Executive Board prior to 1951

\* \* \* \* \*