UNited Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
Executive Board
Summary Record of the Ninetieth Meeting
held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 22 April 1952, at 10:30 a.m.

Contents:

- Question of the representation of China
- Adoption of the agenda
- Announcement of contributions
- General Progress Report of the Executive Director (E/ICEF/190 and E/ICEF/190/Corr.1)
- Long-range activities for children
- Final Report of the International Tuberculosis Campaign, 1 July 1948 - 30 June 1951

Chairman: Mrs. SINCLAIR, Canada

Members:
- Mr. PEACHEY, Australia
- Mr. FENAUX, Belgium
- Mr. de PAIVA LEITE, Brazil
- Mr. PEIVIS, Ceylon
- Mr. TSAO, China
- Mr. APUNTE, Ecuador
- Professor DEBRE, France
Members: (continued)

Mr. PESMAZOGLOU
Mr. RAJAN
Miss SUDIRDJO
Mr. KHALIDY
Mr. BAROR
Mr. MONTINI
Mr. DAVIN
Mr. HOLGUIN de LAVALLE
Mr. GARCIA
Mr. LINDT
Dr. DAENGSVANG
Mr. CHECHERIKIN
Mr. ANDERSON
Miss LENROOT
Mr. FORTEZA
Mr. FLANC

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Miss TSONGAS
Mr. SISMANIDIS
Mr. MAHDAVI
Dr. KAUL
Dr. INGALLS

Secretariat: Miss HENDERSON

UNICEF Administration:

Mr. PATE
Mr. HEYWARD
Dr. BORCIC
Mr. SCHMITTLINGER
Dr. HOLM
Mr. EGGGER
Mr. KEENY
Mr. CHARNOW

Czech
India
Indonesia
Iraq
Israel
Italy
New Zealand
Peru
Philippines
Switzerland
Thailand
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Yugoslavia

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
International Labour Organisation (ILO)
World Health Organization (WHO)

Department of Social Affairs

Executive Director
Deputy Executive Director
Chief Medical Consultant
Programme Co-ordinator
Director of Joint Enterprise
Director, Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office
Director, Asia Regional Office
Secretary of the Board

/QUESTION OF
QUESTION OF THE REPRESENTATION OF CHINA

Mr. CHECHETKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) reminded members that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China had informed the UNICEF Executive Board in a cable dated 25 August 1950 that he did not recognize the members of the Kuomintang group to be representatives of China and he had requested their exclusion from all UNICEF organs.

The USSR delegation considered that request to be completely justified and believed that the legal representatives of the Chinese people should be invited to participate in the work of the UNICEF Executive Board. It therefore submitted the following draft resolution:

"The Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

"Decides:

"(a) To exclude the representative of the Kuomintang group from the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and its organs;

"(b) To invite the representative of the People's Republic of China, designated by the Central People's Government of China, to take part in the work of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and its organs."

Mr. TSAO (China) said he would merely recall the three resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in the matter. In its resolution 505 (VI), the General Assembly had expressed the view that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in its relations with China since the surrender of Japan, had failed to carry out the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance between China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of 14 August 1945. The so-called "Central People's Government of China" was a direct result of the violation of the treaty. Should it be admitted to the United Nations, it would only add one more vote to those of the Soviet bloc. The General Assembly, moreover, had found in its resolution 498 (V) that the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China had engaged in aggression in Korea. Chinese people were peace-loving people. It was untrue to say that such a communist regime represented the Chinese people. Finally, the General Assembly had recommended, in its resolution 396 (V), that when any question such as that of the representation of China arose, it should be considered by the General Assembly, or by the Interim Committee if the General Assembly was not in session. The Board apparently had no competence to deal with that question.

The Soviet Union draft resolution was therefore out of order.
Miss LENROOT (United States of America) said that her delegation had on more than one occasion expressed its views in the matter and its position remained unchanged.

In view of the fact that the Chinese Communist Government had adopted in Korea an attitude which was contrary to the principles upon which the United Nations was founded, a proposal such as the one submitted should not be considered.

She therefore proposed that, in accordance with rule 25 of the rules of procedure, consideration of the question should be postponed.

Mr. ANDERSON (United Kingdom) supported the United States proposal. In the circumstances, no useful purpose would be served by considering the question.

The United States proposal was adopted by 16 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

Mr. CHECHETKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the decision taken by the Executive Board was incorrect and illegal for the reasons already advanced by his delegation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. CHECHETKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that item 7 of the provisional agenda, distributed that morning, report of the Executive Director regarding the inactive China allocation, should be considered as part of item 2 of the agenda, general progress reports of the Executive Director, as originally proposed in the provisional agenda dated 26 March 1952.

The Soviet Union proposal was rejected by 15 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions.

The agenda was adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Mr. MONTINI (Italy) announced that the Italian Government had decided that its contribution to UNICEF for the fiscal year 1952 would be $100,000. It regretted that it could not make a larger contribution to the work being carried out by UNICEF but was prevented from doing so by the present economic situation in Italy, aggravated as it had been by the severe floods in 1951. The Italian Government wished, however, that its modest contribution should be a token of its gratitude to UNICEF/
Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) informed the Board that his Government intended shortly to place at the disposal of UNICEF a sum of 5,000 Iraqi dinars in local currency. It was regrettably that, as a result of the heavy expenditure with which the Government of Iraq was faced, the contribution had to be a small one.

Mr. BAROR (Israel) announced that the Parliament of Israel had recently decided to place 9,000 Israeli pounds at the disposal of UNICEF. The contribution was made once again in local currency and, in that connexion, the UNICEF Administration should be congratulated for the very sensible way in which it had made use of the contribution in local currency granted by the Government of Israel in 1951.

Mr. PELVIS (Ceylon) observed that his Government had contributed $7,500 to UNICEF.

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of the Executive Board, thanked the Governments concerned for their contributions to UNICEF. Their continued support was more important than the actual amount of the contributions.

GENERAL PROGRESS REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (E/ICEF/190 and E/ICEF/190/Corr. 1)

Mr. PATE (Executive Director) observed that UNICEF, since the previous meeting of the Executive Board, had undertaken to extend its activities to several East African countries and territories. UNICEF intended shortly, in co-operation with WHO, to establish a regional office at Brazzaville.

He drew particular attention to the first chapter of the Report entitled "Summary of Conclusions and Trends".

The chapter showed that thirty-five Governments had granted contributions to UNICEF in 1951 as against thirty-six in 1950. The United States contribution had been lower in 1951 than in 1950 but it should be borne in mind that the main reason for the difference was the fact that the contribution had been made at the end of the fiscal year just as the President was about to submit to Congress a new request for allocations to UNICEF. Total contributions from all other countries during the two previous years were substantially the same. That was an encouraging sign, considering that in 1951 UNICEF had initiated a number of long-range programmes.
During the first two or three years of its activities, UNICEF had, in fact, received relatively larger amounts as a result of the urgent needs of children in war-devastated countries.

It was now apparent, however, that in the countries of Asia, the Near East and Latin America much bigger long-term results could be achieved than those which had been brought about by the distribution of foodstuffs and clothing. The protection of a large number of children against malaria and yaws or their vaccination against tuberculosis afforded UNICEF an opportunity which was all the more important because such programmes were relatively inexpensive; similarly, it had been possible to initiate milk conservation and nutrition programmes in new areas.

The economically under-developed countries were showing unexpected enthusiasm for programmes for the benefit of children. In the Philippines, for example, a sum equivalent to approximately $500,000 had been collected from the people; together with the contribution from the Philippine Government, that sum was being used to carry out UNICEF programmes. The same had been true of a certain number of other countries.

Despite that enthusiasm, previous experience and the information received by the regional offices had led the Administration to recommend to the Programme Committee a target budget of $20,000,000 for the financial year 1952-1953 as against a target budget of $30,000,000 for the preceding financial year. The reason for that reduction could be found in the principles adopted by UNICEF during recent years, in particular the principle that UNICEF would not import into a country any goods that were produced locally and that it would not undertake anything which could be done by personnel from the receiving country. Furthermore, since UNICEF's activities were mainly for the benefit of the under-developed countries, programmes could be put into effect only by slow stages; UNICEF made it a rule that local expenditure should be met by the governments or by organizations in the countries concerned and the latter had only limited staff at their disposal to carry out the programmes.

It was for that reason that the UNICEF Administration had recommended that the under-developed countries should be given as much assistance as possible
in the training of personnel, financial assistance being granted, when necessary, to countries which made a special effort in that direction. Nevertheless, even if the Executive Board adopted more liberal principles with regard to training, the financial assistance granted to certain countries in that respect would be comparatively low since the UNICEF Administration did not intend to do more than stimulate government action.

When UNICEF had begun its work immediately after the war, administrative costs had been relatively low. In 1951, they had risen to 9 per cent of the budget and that figure would probably be slightly higher in 1952. It should be remembered, however, that a large part of the administrative costs were absorbed by studies.

Before recommendations were submitted to the Executive Board, UNICEF officials carried out thorough studies and investigations in the countries concerned; the documentation assembled on the spot and in the regional offices was then examined at UNICEF headquarters. Consequently, it could be claimed that the cost of studying the value of programmes was a particularly vital and economic form of technical assistance.

Mr. TSAO (China) expressed his delegation's satisfaction with the Director General's report; the chapter headed "Summary of Conclusions and Trends" was particularly helpful and such information should be included in future reports to the Executive Board.

He drew attention in annex I of the Director General's report (E/ICEF/190) which mentioned allocations to "China-Mainland"; he requested that in future the allocations to China should be stated to "China", without mentioning "Mainland", since allocations were made to China as a whole.

Miss LENNOOT (United States of America) remarked that UNICEF had achieved considerable progress; at its recent meeting, the Programme Committee had noted with satisfaction the close co-operation established between UNICEF on the one hand and the receiving governments and the specialized agencies on the other.

She also noted that UNICEF's programmes were more and more taking the form of technical assistance, thus enabling the best use to be made of its available resources.
Professor DEERE (France) associated himself with the tributes paid to the Director General's report.

As the United States representative had said, UNICEF's action would in future be directed primarily towards long-term programmes; the Director-General's report also showed the very varied nature of the material and technical assistance activities undertaken by the fund.

Dr. DAENGSVANG (Thailand) joined with previous speakers in congratulating Mr. Pate on his clear, concise report; his delegation approved the UNICEF Administration's programmes.

With reference to a statement on page 9 of the report to the effect that the results of the national campaign for funds in Thailand were estimated at $75,000, 30 per cent of which would be turned over to UNICEF, he wished to point out that that estimate was rather optimistic and Thailand's forthcoming contribution to UNICEF would amount to approximately $18,000.

Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) recalled that the UNICEF Administration was often held up as an example; that was one reason the more for trying to keep its administrative expenses as low as possible. Like Mr. Pate, he admitted that the need for the increased control of all types of activity would inevitably involve additional expense. Obviously, however, such measures would ultimately result in saving. He would like to know, though, the extent to which administrative expenses would be increased.

Mr. PATE (Director General) pointed out that it was difficult to fix a theoretical limit for administrative expenses. The procedure in planning programmes was to begin by examining, in co-operation with governmental experts from the countries concerned, what type of programme would be most effective. When the type of programme had been determined, consideration must be given to the most economical method of carrying it out, in order to ensure that the best use was made of governmental and UNICEF funds. Those activities were all extremely important, but he could assure the Board that everything would be done to keep administrative expenses at as reasonable a level as possible.
Mr. ANDERSON (United Kingdom) recalled that his delegation had already made certain comments on the report of the Programme Committee. He was glad that the Director General of UNICEF had pointed out in his statement that the change in the type of activities undertaken by UNICEF would necessarily involve their co-ordination with other and more general technical assistance projects. His delegation had noted that in certain cases the activities of UNICEF, WHO and FAO had been combined. It was important that UNICEF representatives should study the maternal and child welfare needs of various countries and the resources available locally to develop the appropriate services. His delegation was happy that UNICEF had been able to continue its assistance in emergency cases but thought that its main effort should now be on the extension and development of health services in the different territories.

Mr. FORTEZA (Uruguay) associated himself with previous speakers in congratulating the Director General of UNICEF on his excellent report. The Uruguayan delegation was glad to note that UNICEF was paying particular attention to long-term projects to deal with the chronic problems of children, as the representative of France had aptly termed them.

Mr. GARCIA (Philippines) recalled that the Government and people of his country had always shared the noble aspirations which guided UNICEF in its work. It was not surprising therefore that the peoples of the Philippines had responded enthusiastically to their President's appeal for a national campaign on behalf of children. On the other hand, when the Philippines had been stricken by a volcanic eruption, UNICEF had given the people assistance amounting to approximately $29,000. The Director General of UNICEF was to be congratulated on his admirable report. At the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Economic and Social Council several representatives had drawn attention to the change in the nature of UNICEF's activities; instead of being concerned solely with emergency relief, the Fund was now planning and carrying on long-term programmes. His delegation was happy to note from the Director General's report that that tendency was continuing. It also wished to congratulate UNICEF on the way it was keeping down its administrative expenses. The information supplied by the Director General showed that the Philippine delegation had been right at the last session.
last session of the General Assembly in opposing the establishment of a United Nations committee to control the extra-budgetary funds and administrative expenses of subsidiary bodies of the United Nations. His delegation hoped that the progress outlined in the report would continue.

Mr. de PAIVA LEITE (Brazil) wished to know when the Executive Board would study the Economic and Social Council's report on the critical shortage of insecticides (E/2183). That report might be considered when the Board came to examine paragraphs 56-58 of the Director General's report, dealing with the question of insecticides, or it might be considered separately, after the discussion on the situation in the various areas. The Economic and Social Council's report was most interesting and contained valuable information on a matter within the competence of UNICEF, namely the consumption of DDT and the quantities available. The report of the Joint Committee on Health Policy, which was on the agenda, also included a section on DDT.

The CHAIRMAN thought it would be best to defer consideration of the report of the Economic and Social Council until the Executive Board took up the report of the Joint Committee.

LONG-RANGE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

The CHAIRMAN invited Miss Henderson, of the Department of Social Affairs, to make a statement on the question.

Miss HENDERSON (Department of Social Affairs) made a statement on long-range activities for children.*

Miss LENROOT (United States of America) thanked Miss Henderson for her excellent statement. She was to be congratulated particularly on having emphasized the need to consider the development of the child as a whole, that is, from the medical, social and educational angles.

*Text to be issued as a document.
If that were to be achieved, close co-operation would be needed between the various agencies concerned, in one way or another, with child welfare problems. A careful analysis would have to be made of the specific conditions in each country, taking into account the degree of organization of child, family and community welfare services each country's means and personnel requirements would have to be accurately estimated. In the past, when UNICEF, like other agencies, had had to concentrate on relieving immediate suffering, such a preliminary analysis had not always been possible. But at the stage now reached, UNICEF should not neglect any means to ensure the closest co-operation with local authorities, and should, to that end, work not only with the specialized agencies but with governments. There was no doubt that in many cases even closer co-operation might be achieved, and child welfare activities would gain in cohesion and efficiency as a result. For example, there should be systematic co-ordination between private and public agencies and closer relationships between experts and public opinion. In the United States, through periodic conferences on child welfare problems, the conclusion had been reached that problems of the physical and psychological development of the child should be taken together. Whether it was nutrition or proper adaptation of the child to its environment, no question should be studied apart from all the others. In that connexion, there had to be co-ordination between the activities of professional and scientific groups and those of social workers who were in direct contact with the children. Only thus could a child develop a healthy and harmonious personality. She thought that every country could take effective steps for co-ordination regardless of its economic development. The training of auxiliary staff was obviously very important. In view of the extremely complex nature of its work in that field, UNICEF should have an especially competent staff at all levels.

Mr. de PAIVA LEITE (Brazil) agreed with those remarks. The Division of Social Welfare was doing an excellent job of co-ordination, with the emphasis quite properly placed on under-developed areas. Of course, in many countries, the wide range of needs and the urgency of the work to be done had sometimes caused governments to take measures for child welfare without first ensuring the best possible co-ordination and without deriving full benefit from /the country's
the country's resources. The training of auxiliary personnel was certainly of the utmost importance in that respect. Moreover, social welfare advisers could make a very significant contribution by helping governments to draw up co-ordinated and systematic programmes.

Professor DEBRE (France), on behalf of the French delegation, joined in the praise given Miss Henderson. Moreover, he was in complete agreement with the United States representative's statement. There were three points which, while they appeared to be of secondary importance, involved important matters of principle.

In the first place, in countries which had already organized social welfare services, there was a definite division between the activities of social workers and of visiting nurses, in other words, between the social and medical aspects of child welfare. It was interesting to note that in the countries which were now setting up those social welfare services, the two activities were automatically closely co-ordinated and were no longer thought of separately. In addition, it should be remembered that it was often useful to train social welfare workers in international centres. The social welfare workers educated outside their own countries did in fact receive better general training. Finally, he wished to stress the importance of taking appropriate practical measures, even before knowing the results of pilot projects.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Miss Henderson for her statement to the Board. The statement and the two reports of which the Board had taken note had enabled UNICEF to gain a better perspective of its own activities.

FINAL REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS CAMPAIGN, 1 JULY 1948 - 30 JUNE 1951

At the invitation of the CHAIRMAN, Dr. HOLM (Director of the Joint Enterprise) commented on the campaign which had been completed nine months earlier. It had been carried on by the Joint Enterprise of UNICEF and certain voluntary agencies of the three Scandinavian countries. About 30 million children had been given the tuberculin test and about 14 million of them /had been
had been vaccinated with BCG. Taking into account the operations which
preceded the campaign itself, approximately 37 and 16 million children
respectively were involved. UNICEF's minimum contribution came to about
$3,200,000 and that of the Scandinavian organizations to 10 million Danish
crowns or about $1,500,000.

The Joint Enterprise had had to work out its own methods which
differed from those of UNICEF and of the other participating agencies. He
thanked the UNICEF Administration and its Executive Director who had left the
Joint Enterprise all the freedom of action in administrative and financial
matters which was essential to it. He also expressed his gratitude to the
Medical Sub-Committee of UNICEF to which the Joint Enterprise had reported
once a month pointing out its difficulties; in that connexion, he wished to
pay special tribute to Professor Debré and Mr. Ryckmans.

It was of course very difficult to evaluate the results of the
programmes at that stage; only after some years could the extent to which
children had been protected against tuberculosis be assessed. The Copenhagen
Tuberculosis Research Bureau asserted, however, that in certain countries the
effects of BCG vaccination would soon become evident.

While the leaders of the Joint Enterprise had been in complete
agreement from the outset on the objectives of the campaign, the many
problems of detail could be resolved only in the course of the operation.
The services of the WHO Research Bureau had proved invaluable in that
connexion, both in conducting the campaign and in substantially reducing
its costs. For example, the work of the Research Bureau had shown that each
child had only to be given one tuberculin test instead of two as previously
believed. It had also been noted that the vaccine, kept at normal
temperature, retained all its properties for a month at the very least;
that had made possible a very considerable reduction in the cost of
transport. Lastly, the Bureau had discovered that exposure to the sun
had a very harmful effect on the conservation of the vaccine. The Joint
Enterprise had also begun to consider whether, in countries with a very
small medical staff, persons without medical training might not administer
the vaccine. The Bureau's research had shown that the precise dose of the
injection was not very important, and that there was therefore no need to
enlist the services of doctors.

E/ICEF/SR.90
Page 13
While BCG vaccine still had to be studied, its properties were very much better known than at the outset of the campaign. Moreover, it was clear that it was an effective weapon against tuberculosis. A study of the morbidity rates in the various countries showed that in general tuberculosis was on the decline in the countries of Europe and North America. That was not the case, however, in under-developed areas and particularly in tropical countries. It might well be that within a few years tuberculosis would be regarded as a tropical illness. It was certainly true that at present the tropical areas were a vast area of infection. However, besides climate, certain social and economic factors played a very important part.

Obviously BCG vaccination did not provide any final solution; it was no more than a first step that could bring about an appreciable reduction in the number of tuberculosis victims. Hence the importance of following it up by other methods could not be emphasized too much. It would appear that efforts should be concentrated upon the elimination of sources of infection rather than on the development of methods of treatment; in any case, present possibilities of treatment were quite inadequate in the countries that were the worst sufferers. The discovery of the destructive action of sunlight upon the bacilli might well open up new vistas.

Tuberculosis remained one of the serious childhood diseases, especially in under-developed countries. More than ever before, however, there was the certainty that it could be successfully countered if methodical steps were taken against it. UNICEF was to be congratulated on the support it was giving to BCG vaccination campaigns throughout the world.

Mr. LINDT (Switzerland) pointed out that BCG vaccination campaigns were among the programmes to which UNICEF gave assistance in every part of the world. Those programmes, modest enough in their beginnings, had now become a mass campaign. The Board should do all in its power to make them even more extensive in the future. UNICEF owed a debt of gratitude to WHO, as also to Dr. Holm, who had done pioneering work in that field.

/Mr. TSAO
Mr. TSAO (China) associated his Government with that statement; he would like to extend thanks also, through the medium of Dr. Holm, to the organs of the Scandinavian countries that had taken part.

Mr. BAROR (Israel) thanked Dr. Holm for the excellent report he had presented and for the statement he had just made to the Board. It was most important that public opinion should be forcibly drawn to the work UNICEF had accomplished in that sphere. The report urged that the fight against tuberculosis should be continued in every country when the BCG vaccination campaigns had been completed. He was afraid that that point had not always been given sufficient emphasis. The Board itself should never lose sight of the problem.

Mr. FORTEZA (Uruguay) also wished to thank Dr. Holm. He fully shared the views of the representatives of China, Israel and Switzerland. Uruguay had always given special attention to that problem. In 1944 a campaign was initiated throughout the country against tuberculosis, a result of which was the creation by the Uruguayan Parliament, in January 1946, of a government agency, the "Honorary Commission for the Fight Against Tuberculosis", under the Ministry of Health to deal exclusively with the prevention of tuberculosis and the treatment of tubercular patients. It was undoubtedly due in great part to the activities of that service that there had been a considerable decrease in the number of tubercular cases in Uruguay. The service was also instructed to contend with the social and economic effects of the disease; for that purpose it paid an allowance to the families of tubercular patients who were undergoing treatment.

Mr. APUNTE (Ecuador) said that, while it was not possible at the present stage to assess the results of the BCG vaccination campaigns, it could certainly be asserted there and then that their effect would be considerable. As a result of the campaign in Ecuador, the Ecuadoran people had gained a clear idea of the importance of BCG vaccination. The Ecuadoran Government realized, as did Dr. Holm, that the fight must be pursued when the campaign was over.
Professor DEBRE (France) was convinced that the work accomplished by Dr. Holm would go down in the annals of medicine. It need hardly be said that, although the report bore the title of "Final Report", the task was far from completed.

Mr. PLEIC (Yugoslavia) expressed his Government's gratitude. The campaign that the Joint Enterprise had organized in Yugoslavia had come up against considerable difficulties but there was every reason to anticipate that it would have excellent results. The Yugoslav Government hoped that it would be possible to introduce similar programmes in all the other countries of the world.

The CHAIRMAN added his own thanks to those which had been addressed to Dr. Holm.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.