



REPORT
of the
UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL RECORDS : TWELFTH SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. II (A/3585/Rev.I)

NEW YORK, 1957

(64 p.)

NOTE

All United Nations documents are designated by symbols, i.e., capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<u>Introduction</u>	1
<u>Chapter I. The problem of Hungarian refugees</u>	2
A. <u>Summary of the problem and results achieved</u>	2
General remarks.	2
Resettlement	2
Repatriation.	2
Comprehensive assessment of needs.	2
Joint appeals with the Secretary-General.	2
Financial position	4
B. <u>Hungarian refugees in Austria</u>	4
Co-ordination of emergency aid.	4
Accommodation.	4
Care and maintenance	4
Long-term needs.	4
C. <u>Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia</u>	5
Establishment of a provisional Branch Office	5
Co-ordination of emergency aid.	5
Accommodation.	5
Care and maintenance	5
<u>Chapter II. Special emergencies.</u>	5
<u>Chapter III. International protection</u>	6
A. <u>International instruments affecting refugees</u>	6
1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.	6
Convention on the Declaration of Death of Missing Persons.	6
Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons	6
Universal Copyright Convention.	6
Conventions of the Council of Europe	6
B. <u>Admission and expulsion</u>	6
Determination of eligibility.	6
Expulsion.	8
C. <u>Rights of refugees in their countries of residence</u>	8
Right to work	8
Education.	8
Social security	8
Legal assistance in individual cases.	9
D. <u>Naturalization</u>	9
E. <u>Travel documents</u>	9
F. <u>Special problems of legal protection</u>	10
Indemnification of victims of Nazi persecution	10
International Tracing Service	10
<u>Chapter IV. Promotion of repatriation and resettlement</u>	10
General remarks	10
Repatriation.	10
Resettlement	10

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
<u>Chapter V. Programme of the United Nations refugee fund</u>	12
General remarks	12
Contributions to the Fund for 1956	12
Implementation of the Plans of Operations for 1955 and 1956	13
Revised Plan of Operations (1957)	13
Contributions pledged or promised for 1957.	13
A. <u>Permanent solutions</u>	13
Austria	13
Germany	14
Greece	15
Italy	16
Other countries (Belgium and France).	16
B. <u>Settlement of difficult cases</u>	17
General remarks.	17
Implementation of Projects in the Plans of Operations for 1955 and 1956.	17
C. <u>Shanghai operation</u>	18
D. <u>Emergency aid</u>	18
General remarks.	18
Implementation of projects in the Revised Plan of Operations (1956).	19
<u>Chapter VI. General Activities</u>	19
A. <u>Relations with specialized agencies of the United Nations</u>	19
International Labour Organisation	19
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	19
World Health Organization	19
B. <u>Relations with Inter-governmental organizations and the United States Escapee Programme</u>	19
Council of Europe	19
Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration	20
Organization for European Economic Co-operation	20
United States Escapee Programme	20
C. <u>Relations with voluntary agencies</u>	21
D. <u>The closing of Tinos camp</u>	21
E. <u>Camp adoption scheme</u>	21
F. <u>Award of the Nansen medal</u>	22
G. <u>Public information</u>	22
<u>ANNEXES</u>	
I. <u>Report on the fourth session of the UNREF Executive Committee</u>	23
II. <u>Report on the fifth session of the UNREF Executive Committee</u>	43
III. <u>Report on the sixth (special) session of the UNREF Executive Committee</u>	61

A N N E X I

REPORT OF THE UNREF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE*

(Fourth session - Geneva, 29 January to 4 February 1957)

*Transmitted to the General Assembly in accordance with para. 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 565(XIX) of 31 March 1955.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. <u>Introduction</u>	1 - 3	27
Opening of the session and election of officers	4 - 7	27
Statement by the High Commissioner	8 - 12	27
Adoption of the agenda	13 - 14	27
II. <u>Report on the fourth session of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee</u>	15	28
III. <u>UNREF progress report</u>	22	28
IV. <u>Provisional financial statements of the United Nations Refugee Fund for the year 1956</u>	23 - 26	28
V. <u>Statement by the President of the Standing Conference of Voluntary Agencies working for Refugees</u>	27 - 30	28
VI. <u>Revised Plan of Operations (1957)</u>	31 - 54	29
Projects for permanent solutions	43 - 44	29
Projects for settlement of difficult cases	45	30
Shanghai operation	46	30
Projects for emergency aid	47 - 48	30
Order of priority for projects approved	49 - 54	30
VII. <u>Plan of administrative expenditure and supplementary plan for 1957</u>	55 - 60	30
VIII. <u>Amendment to financial rules for voluntary funds</u>	61 - 62	31
IX. <u>The problem of Hungarian refugees</u>	63 - 103	31
Hungarian refugees in Austria - general debate	63 - 81	31
Hungarian refugees in Austria - discussion of document A/AC.79/49	82 - 94	33
Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia - discussion of document A/AC.79/54	95 - 100	34
Resolution	101 - 102	35
Summary of decisions	103	35
X. <u>Chinese refugees in Hong Kong</u>	104 - 113	35
XI. <u>Other business</u>	114 - 124	36
The situation of refugees who had recently left Egypt	114 - 117	36
Membership of the UNREF Executive Committee	118 - 120	36
Terms of reference of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee	121 - 124	37

Appendices

I. <u>Projects in categories A/1957, B/1957 and C/1957</u>	37
II. <u>Resolutions adopted during the fourth session:</u>	41
Resolution (No. 4) concerning the problem of Hungarian refugees	41
Resolution (No. 5) concerning Chinese refugees in Hong Kong	41
III. <u>Statements made by the High Commissioner, the representative of Iran and the observer for Egypt in connexion with document A/AC.79/58</u>	41

REPORT OF THE UNREF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Fourth session -Geneva, 29 January to 4 February 1957)

I - INTRODUCTION

1. The UNREF Executive Committee held its fourth session from 29 January to 4 February 1957 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva. All the Governments members of the Executive Committee were represented, as follows:

Australia	Israel
Austria	Italy
Belgium	Netherlands
Brazil	Norway
Colombia	Switzerland
Denmark	Turkey
France	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Germany, Federal Republic of	United States of America
Greece	Venezuela
Holy See	
Iran	

2. The Governments of Canada, China, Egypt, Hungary, Sweden and Yugoslavia were represented by observers, as was the Sovereign Order of Malta.

3. The International Labour Organisation, the Council of Europe, the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration, and the Food and Agriculture Organization were also represented by observers.

Opening of the session and election of officers

4. The session was opened by Dame May Gurwen (United Kingdom), Vice-Chairman of the third session of the Executive Committee, the Chairman of the third session not being present.

5. The Committee elected the following officers:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. N. Tuncel (Turkey)
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Mr. J. Cappelen (Norway)
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. N. Currie (Australia)

6. The Chairman paid tribute to the memory of the late Mr. G. J. van Heuven Goedhardt, and extended a welcome to Mr. A. Lindt, the newly elected High Commissioner for Refugees.

7. Mr. Adrian Pelt, Director of the European Office of the United Nations, welcomed the representatives on behalf of the Secretary-General and wished them success in the task they had before them. He particularly welcomed Mr. A. Lindt, and assured him of every support from the European Office in his work.

Statement by the High Commissioner

8. The High Commissioner, in his opening remarks, paid tribute to the late Dr. G. J. van Heuven Goedhardt, whose devotion and foresight in planning the UNREF programme was now bearing fruit.

9. The problems facing his Office had been increased by the influx of Hungarian refugees into Austria and Yugoslavia. The Office's policy was to do everything possible, in collaboration with the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration, to stimulate the emigration of the Hungarian refugees from their country of first asylum.

10. Another emergency problem with which his Office was faced was that of the refugees from Egypt who came within the mandate of the Office, and he was following the developments of this problem with much concern.

11. In spite of these emergencies, it was the policy of the Office to go ahead with the UNREF programme, and the generous contribution by Sweden of 7 million kroner would be of very considerable help in implementing the programme in 1957. During the last year some 6,000 refugees had been helped by the programme, which had acquired considerable impetus during the last three months. The report he had submitted to the General Assembly at its eleventh session on the short-fall in governmental contributions^{1/} had now been superseded by events and a re-appraisal of the position was required.

12. As far as the Shanghai Operation was concerned, he was glad to report that refugees were still able to leave China, and the operation could therefore be continued. Finally, the High Commissioner made a plea to all Governments to follow the example of those which had generously admitted difficult cases, whose numbers were still considerable.

Adoption of the agenda

13. In view of the presence in Geneva for a limited time of his Excellency Minister Helmer, Minister of the Interior of the Federal Republic of Austria, a request was made that the general debate on the question of Hungarian refugees should be placed early in the Agenda. The following agenda was accordingly adopted:

1. Election of officers;
2. Adoption of the agenda;
3. Report on the fourth session of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee (A/AC.79/53);
4. The problem of Hungarian refugees (general debate);
5. UNREF progress report (A/AC.79/48 and Add.1 and 2);
6. Provisional financial statements of the United Nations Refugee Fund for the year 1956 (A/AC.79/51);

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 11A (A/3123/Rev.1/Add.1).

7. UNREF Revised Plan of Operations (1957) (A/AC.79/45 and Add.1, A/AC.79/46 and Add.1);
8. Plan of Administrative Expenditure for 1957;
9. Amendment to the financial rules for voluntary funds governing the administration of the UNREF programme (A/AC.79/50);
10. The problem of Hungarian refugees (A/AC.79/49, A/AC.79/49/Add.1, A/AC.79/52, A/AC.79/54);
11. Chinese refugees in Hong Kong (A/AC.79/47, A/AC.79/55, A/AC.79/56);
12. Any other business.

14. It was agreed that the question of refugees from Egypt (A/AC.79/58) should be discussed under the item "Any other business".

II - REPORT ON THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE STANDING PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE

15. The Committee took note of the report on the fourth session of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee (A/AC.79/53 and A/AC.79/PSC/5) and decided to consider the various sections of this report at the same time as the relevant items of the agenda.

III - UNREF PROGRESS REPORT

16. The Committee had before it the UNREF progress report up to 31 December 1956 submitted by the High Commissioner (A/AC.79/48 and Add.1 and 2; Corr.1 and 2), which contained an account of the projects implemented and in the course of implementation, broken down according to country and type of programme, with an indication of the number of beneficiaries and of the participating international and national agencies.

17. The High Commissioner pointed out that one of the salient facts which the report made evident was that the UNREF programme was a programme for individual human beings. That very fact was the reason why the programme was necessarily somewhat complicated in many of its operational details. Patient and experienced case work was an indispensable factor for, in dealing with individual human beings, there was no such thing as a general solution. Valuable experience had now been gained which would show where the future plan needed to be changed or modified. The report bore witness to co-operative tripartite action between Governments, voluntary agencies and the Office. The High Commissioner wished to place on record his thanks and appreciation to the Governments and the many voluntary agencies without whose close collaboration it would have been impossible to carry out the programme.

18. While general appreciation of the report was expressed, some representatives stated their concern at the slow start which the programme had made. They laid special emphasis on the importance of speeding up implementation in certain countries, and on the desirability of preserving an appropriate ratio between the foreign and Volksdeutsche refugee beneficiaries, taking account of the relatively greater difficulties which faced the foreign refugees in becoming fully integrated.

19. One representative considered that, since both the duration of the UNREF programme and its funds

were limited, all the problems of all the refugees could not be solved within the remaining period of the mandate. It was essential therefore to concentrate on the primary objective of the programme, namely, the closure of camps.

20. The High Commissioner assured the Committee that the objective of closing camps was kept constantly in mind by his Office. As the Revised Plan of Operations (1957) showed, certain camps had been definitely listed for closure during 1957. The Austrian Government had shown itself prepared to try to adhere to these plans for camp closure despite the urgent necessity of finding accommodation for Hungarian refugees.

21. The Committee heard with interest a statement by the representative of Belgium concerning his Government's contribution towards the solution of the refugee problem.

22. The Committee took note of the progress report.

IV - PROVISIONAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS REFUGEE FUND FOR THE YEAR 1956

23. The Committee had before it document A/AC.79/51, containing the provisional accounts of UNREF for 1956, and was informed that the final accounts, together with the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors, would be submitted at the fifth session.

24. In reply to a request for early presentation of the final accounts, the secretariat undertook to present them as soon as possible after the meeting of the Board of Auditors.

25. Attention was drawn to the fact that accounts for contributions and expenditures in connexion with refugees from Hungary, although kept within the framework of UNREF, were maintained entirely separately.

26. The Committee took note of the provisional financial statements of the United Nations Refugee Fund for the year 1956.

V - STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE STANDING CONFERENCE OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WORKING FOR REFUGEES

27. The President of the Standing Conference of Voluntary Agencies working for Refugees expressed a welcome to the High Commissioner on taking up office and, on behalf of the thirty-eight agencies which the Standing Conference represented, appreciation for the continuance of the cordial and close relations which had always existed between the voluntary agencies and the High Commissioner. Their relations had become even closer in the emergency created by the influx of new refugees from Hungary, and new patterns of collaboration in the agencies' activities had been evolved which would lead to more efficient action in the future in favour of the refugees.

28. It would be difficult to pay adequate tribute to the selfless devotion and tireless efforts which the staffs of governmental, inter-governmental and voluntary agencies had made during the emergency. Addendum I to document A/AC.79/49 indicated something of what the agencies were doing but, in addition, there was a multitude of smaller bodies in countries

of first or second asylum who were contributing to the common effort, but whose services remained anonymous.

29. Some of the agencies represented in the Standing Conference had special concerns for special categories of refugees, for example, the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong, or the Arab refugees in the Middle East, but all were anxious that the claims of the "old refugees" should not be forgotten. The President of the Standing Conference made a special appeal to the Governments represented in the UNREF Executive Committee to bear the needs of those refugees in mind in planning their immigration policies.

30. In conclusion, he announced the intention of the Standing Conference to call a two-day meeting in the spring to work out a concerted plan designed, through the most effective utilization of all ideas and available resources, to prevent the sudden influx of Hungarian refugees from giving rise to a new long-term refugee problem.

VI - REVISED PLAN OF OPERATIONS (1957)

31. The Committee first considered the analysis of implementation of the UNREF Plan of Operations for 1955 and of the Revised Plan of Operations (1956) (part I of the Revised Plan of Operations (1957); A/AC.79/45 and Add.1).

32. The High Commissioner drew the attention of the Committee to the fact that the total amount of UNREF contributions to projects implemented within the Plan of Operations for 1955 was \$2,991,135; of this amount, \$1,857,974 represented governmental contributions and \$1,133,162 non-governmental contributions.

33. The total amount of UNREF contributions to projects implemented within the Revised Plan of Operations (1956) was \$3,418,495. Of this amount, \$3,134,668 consisted of governmental contributions and \$283,832 of non-governmental contributions.

34. The High Commissioner further explained that, following the procedure adopted by the UNREF Executive Committee at its second session, the combined target for governmental contributions for 1957 should consist of the original target for that year, i.e., \$4,400,000, to which should be added the short-fall in governmental contributions for 1956 amounting to \$2,696,303, making a total of \$7,096,303, as recommended in paragraph 7 of document A/AC.79/45/Add.1.

35. The Executive Committee noted the unanimous recommendation made by the Standing Programme Sub-Committee to this effect (para. 29 of the Sub-Committee's report) and endorsed it. The target for 1957 will therefore be \$7,096,303.

36. With regard to the proposal contained in paragraph 8 of document A/AC.79/45/Add.1, that the UNREF target for 1957 should be increased by \$1 million to finance a number of long-term projects to benefit new refugees from Hungary residing in Austria, it was decided to deal with this question under items 4 and 10 of the agenda.

37. The Executive Committee then considered part II of the Revised Plan of Operations (1957) (A/AC.79/46 and A/AC.79/46/Add.1, part A).

38. The Committee discussed the suggestion contained in paragraphs (v) and (vi) of the introduction to document A/AC.79/46, in conjunction with paragraphs 33 and 34 of the report of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee, and endorsed the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the High Commissioner should submit to the Executive Committee, at its fifth session, a revised document on the effect of the short-fall in governmental contributions, also showing the impact of the problem of refugees from Hungary and including a re-appraisal of the UNREF programme.

39. With regard to the point raised in paragraph (x) of the introduction, namely, whether approved country allocations should be maintained in the case of countries where there was a serious delay in implementation of the programme, or where projects for the full value of the annual allocation could not be submitted, the Executive Committee agreed that, when such circumstances arose, the Committee should re-examine the question of the annual country allocation. The existing allocations would be reviewed, if necessary, by the Committee at its fifth session. In this connexion, the High Commissioner mentioned that it was hoped that effective machinery for the implementation of the projects for permanent solutions in Greece would shortly be established. The projects for the settlement of difficult cases and for emergency aid in that country were being implemented according to plan, although the withdrawal of USEP assistance from Rumanian refugees of Greek ethnic origin had placed an extra burden on the emergency aid programme.

40. In connection with paragraph (xii) of the introduction, the Committee discussed the position which arose if a project which had been authorized for implementation had obviously to be delayed. It agreed that the High Commissioner might, in consultation with the Government of the country concerned, suspend or cancel any such project. The consequence of this would be that the funds thereby released would be devoted to the next project in the approved order of priority (category A or B). It was not permissible, without a decision of the Executive Committee or the Standing Programme Sub-Committee, for the funds concerned to be devoted to a project which had been approved in category C.

41. In the course of the discussion it was recalled that, at its third session, the Executive Committee had authorized the High Commissioner to consult the members of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee in writing, if funds became available which would justify a transfer of additional projects from category C to category B.

42. The Committee examined the projects submitted for approval in the light of the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee in its report (para. 39-56).

Projects for permanent solutions

43. The reservations which had been made in the Sub-Committee on some of the projects were withdrawn, with the proviso that the High Commissioner should continue to seek assurances from the Governments of those countries which had not yet given them,

that they would assume full financial responsibility should any of the refugees within the scope of the UNREF programme still require assistance upon expiry of the programme.

44. Some delegations expressed serious doubts as to the desirability of continuing to include projects for aid to university students which, although valuable in themselves, meant the diversion of funds from projects which would have a more direct effect on the reduction of the camp population. Several delegations strongly supported the retention of these projects. The Committee noted that the principle would be observed of allowing only those students to benefit who were already well advanced in a course of study which they could not complete without help from UNREF. It expressed the opinion that preference should be given to helping those students whose studies would enable them to become firmly established.

Projects for settlement of difficult cases

45. In connexion with projects DC/4/EUR^{2/} DC/3/M-EA/EUR^{2/} and DC/15/CHI/EUR^{2/}, the High Commissioner asked the Committee's authority to raise the maximum grant to \$1,200 for the settlement of chronically sick cases. This authorization was granted by the Committee.

Shanghai operation

46. The reservations which had been made in the Sub-Committee on certain projects in this section were withdrawn, fuller information having been furnished to the interested delegation.

Projects for emergency aid

47. The High Commissioner stressed the importance which his Office attached to project EA/2/RAC/1957 for an emergency reserve of \$50,000. He cited the recent emergency caused by the influx of refugees from Hungary, and stated that it was most important to keep a certain amount in reserve which could be used immediately for any future emergency. At the request of several delegations, he undertook to notify the members of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee as soon as he had made use of these funds in an emergency.

48. The Committee approved all the projects contained in part II of document A/AC.79/46 and in part A of document A/AC.79/46/Add.1.

Order of priority for projects approved

49. The Committee then considered part III of document A/AC.79/46, together with part B of document A/AC.79/46/Add.1.

50. The Committee heard with much pleasure an announcement by the representative of the United Kingdom of a grant of \$351,009 made to UNREF by the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as a result of a nation-wide campaign. This grant was to be used for the implementation of a number of selected projects in the Revised

Plan of Operations (1957), including projects for permanent solutions in Austria, Germany, Greece, Italy and Turkey, and projects for the settlement of difficult cases in Egypt, Greece and Turkey. The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, and the High Commissioner expressed thanks and appreciation to the people of the United Kingdom for this most generous contribution.

51. The High Commissioner explained that the order of priority proposed had been carefully worked out in consultation with the Governments of the Countries concerned, and that changes in the order would upset a balance which had been established between different country programmes. The reservations which had been formulated in the Sub-Committee on the inclusion of certain projects in category B/1957 were withdrawn, in consideration of supplementary information furnished to the delegations concerned.

52. The Committee adopted the proposal of the Sub-Committee to include project EA/2/RAC/57 for a special emergency reserve of \$50,000 after item 8, and project PS/24/GER/1957 after item 38 in category B/1957.

53. It was pointed out that, while some of the projects which were to be financed from the contribution of the United Nations Association in the United Kingdom were already recommended for authorization in category B/1957, other projects had only so far been recommended for inclusion in category C/1957 and had, therefore, not yet been included in the priority list. The High Commissioner, therefore, proposed that, in the final list of priorities, all projects to be financed from the grant of the United Nations Association in the United Kingdom should be listed in category A/1957 in conformity with the practice followed in similar cases at earlier sessions. The remaining projects would be listed in categories B/1957 or C/1957 in accordance with the decisions of the Committee.

54. The Executive Committee authorized for implementation, with the above changes, projects recommended for inclusion in categories A/1957 and B/1957 and approved their order of priority as shown in the list in Appendix I to this report.

VII - PLAN OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE AND SUPPLEMENTARY PLAN FOR 1957

55. In considering the UNREF Plan of Administrative Expenditure for 1957 (A/AC.79/PSC/R.21) and the Supplementary Plan (A/AC.79/PSC/R.21/Add.1), the attention of the Executive Committee was drawn to section IV of the report of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee (A/AC.79/53), where it was noted that the Sub-Committee had unanimously decided to recommend the adoption of the first but had merely agreed to take note of the second of these documents.

56. The Deputy High Commissioner drew a distinction between the current budget of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Plan of Administrative Expenditure for the UNREF programme. In view of the foreseeable impact of the Hungarian crisis, the General Assembly at its eleventh session, had approved an increase of \$93,000 in the current UNHCR budget. The increase covered six additional Profes-

^{2/} Provisional symbol pending implementation.

sional posts and eleven General Service posts considered to be essential to meet the additional work devolving on the Office in the international protection of a large group of new refugees.

57. The original UNREF Plan of Administrative Expenditure (A/AC.79/PSC/R.21), which showed an increase of only \$22,730 over the budget for 1956, necessitated by the increase of regular work resulting from the development of the UNREF programme, had been prepared before the advent of the Hungarian refugee emergency. The Supplementary Plan of Administrative Expenditure was designed to cover the charges deriving from the emergency assistance which, according to resolution 1006 (ES-II) adopted by the General Assembly on 9 November 1956, was to be afforded to the refugees from Hungary and in connexion with which the High Commissioner had been assigned a co-ordinating role. The only Branch Office which it was proposed should be strengthened was, therefore, that in Austria.

58. In reply to a question, it was explained that posts in connexion with the ordinary legal and administrative protection functions of the High Commissioner's Office were provided for in the regular UNHCR budget adopted each year by the General Assembly. Additional necessary posts for this service had been provided for out of the increased budget already mentioned.

59. It was further explained that the possible approval by the Executive Committee of the expansion of the UNREF target by \$1 million for long-term projects for new refugees from Hungary would not entail a further increase of administrative costs. It was estimated that the expanded staff covered by the Plan of Administrative Expenditure and the Supplementary Plan now before the Committee would, if required, be able to carry the additional workload involved in the elaboration and supervision of such projects.

60. The Executive Committee adopted the UNREF Plan of Administrative Expenditure and Supplementary Plan for 1957.

VIII - AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL RULES FOR VOLUNTARY FUNDS

61. The Committee had before it document A/AC.79/50 relating to two amendments to the financial rules for voluntary funds which had been proposed at its third session. Owing to the improved financial situation at the end of 1956, the amendment proposed to rule 3 was no longer considered necessary. The proposed amendment to rule 8.1 was designed to empower the High Commissioner to enter into obligations against contributions firmly pledged. It had been substantially approved by the Committee at its third session, and had subsequently been accepted by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions with a minor verbal change.

62. The Executive Committee adopted the amendment to rule 8.1 of the financial rules for voluntary funds as set forth in document A/AC.79/50.

IX. THE PROBLEM OF HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

Hungarian refugees in Austria (general debate)

63. The Austrian Minister of the Interior, Mr. Helmer, referred to the continuous influx of Hungarian refugees, whose number now exceeded 170,000, and who continued to arrive in Austria despite winter conditions and measures designed to prevent them from leaving their country. He stated that his Government was determined to uphold the right of asylum for all refugees, but that the burden imposed on his country by the reception and care of so many persons was becoming too heavy to be borne alone. His country had spent 240,000,000 Austrian schillings for the provision of accommodation, care and maintenance and transportation. Available funds had now been almost exhausted and care and maintenance was at present costing approximately \$80,000 per day. The January expenditures were not covered by any budgetary provisions.

64. Mr. Helmer thanked the High Commissioner, the voluntary agencies and ICEM for the assistance they had already given, and expressed gratitude to those countries which had accepted refugees from Austria.

65. The United States of America had admitted more refugees from Austria than any other country, but he had to draw attention to certain unintentional consequences of the United States immigration laws applicable to Hungarian refugees. Since visas could only be given to refugees in their country of first asylum, many Hungarian refugees were refusing to leave Austria for countries in Europe for fear of losing their chance of immigration into the United States and, if they had already been moved to another country in Europe, they attempted to return to Austria in order to apply for the necessary visas. Consequently, a number of European countries were reluctant to admit further Hungarian refugees from Austria, and the process of re-settlement in these countries had become increasingly difficult. Mr. Helmer therefore addressed an urgent appeal to the United States Government to reconsider its immigration regulations with a view to allowing Hungarian refugees in European countries other than Austria to enter the United States.

66. Mr. Helmer felt that all freedom-loving countries should accept Hungarian refugees from Austria on a quota system and that funds should immediately be raised to reimburse Austria for her care and maintenance costs on the same quota basis. Austria most urgently requested the UNREF Executive Committee to recommend Governments to accept these principles. Countries of resettlement should accept refugees from Austria exclusively on the basis of numbers and not according to political, professional or health considerations, since any such selection would tend to leave the old and sick persons in Austria. Mr. Helmer pointed out that the situation was urgent and that action should be taken before the psychological depression induced by camp life had affected the Hungarian refugees in Austria.

67. Many representatives expressed their appreciation and admiration for the great efforts of the Austrian Government in assisting the refugees from Hungary and sympathy for the difficulties described in

Minister Helmer's statement. Representatives also made statements in amplification of the information on offers of assistance through financial contributions and admission of refugees, contained in the revised annexes I, II and III of document A/AC.79/49, demonstrating the extent of the contributions made by their countries towards the solution of the problem of refugees from Hungary. Details of these statements may be found in the summary records of the 27th and 28th meetings of the Committee.

68. Representatives agreed with Minister Helmer that the problem of the Hungarian refugees in Austria should be treated as an international problem, and not as a local matter arising out of the accident of geographical situation. Although much assistance had already been contributed from international sources, the considerable number of Governments which had not yet contributed should be made aware of the urgent need for further assistance.

69. Statements on their respective activities and their views on certain specific problems of the Hungarian refugees were made by the observer for the Sovereign Order of Malta, the representatives of the International Conference of Catholic Charities, the International Social Service (speaking also on behalf of the International Union for Child Welfare), the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions and the World University Service, as well as the High Commissioner's representative in Austria.

70. Mr. H. Beer, representing the League of Red Cross Societies, described the activities of his organization to help the Hungarian refugees in Austria, reported in document A/AC.79/52. He stated that, under present plans, the care and maintenance operation of the League of Red Cross Societies would be extended in the early part of February 1957, by which time it would cover camps with a capacity of 44,000 refugees. Tentative plans under discussion with the Austrian authorities foresaw a further extension to about 50,000 refugees by 1 March 1957. His organization was aware of the growing problem of the refugees in Yugoslavia.

71. The Committee expressed its deep appreciation for the outstanding efforts and achievements of the League of Red Cross Societies. Recognition of these efforts was also expressed by the observer from Hungary.

72. General concern, however, was expressed at the statement made by the League of Red Cross Societies in paragraph 23 of document A/AC.79/52 that, in view of its many other world-wide obligations, it could not continue its operations in Austria after 30 June 1957. The unanimous wish of the Executive Committee was expressed that the League should continue its operations in Austria after that date, since it seemed likely that the emergency created by the influx of refugees from Hungary would continue beyond that date.

73. Mr. de Rougé, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, explained that certain Red Cross societies had placed a date-limit of 30 June 1957 on the activity of their personnel in Austria. The League would, nevertheless, continue to interest itself in the problem after that date, and to supply the

basic necessities of the refugees as long as possible. It would remain in contact with the High Commissioner and examine the situation in the light of events that might occur during the coming months. The League's commitment could only be extended beyond 30 June 1957 by its Executive Committee, which was due to meet in April.

74. The Secretary of State of the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, Mr. Grubhofer, amplified Mr. Helmer's suggestion that resettlement should be arranged on a quota system, and proposed that countries of resettlement should accept refugees up to a number equivalent to 1 per 1,000 of their own population. On this basis, countries in Western Europe and overseas would take a very much larger total of refugees than they had already offered to accept. He felt that no country should have difficulty in assimilating the proposed number of refugees.

75. Several representatives supported Minister Helmer's appeal to countries of overseas resettlement to grant immigration facilities to refugees moved from Austria to countries of second asylum. The representative of Italy drew attention to the fact that the possibility of resettling refugees in a given country depended not only on the demographic situation of that country, but also on its economic and social position. The representative of the United States of America stated that the President of his country had requested Congress to increase by 65,000 the annual immigration quota. Moreover, the Administration had asked that the quota system should be rendered more flexible and that arrangements should be made for the continued admission of refugees from communist tyranny. Further, he announced that additional contributions were being made to ICEM for the movement of refugees.

76. Mr. Tittman, Director of ICEM, pointed out that, up to the present date, 104,529 Hungarian refugees had been moved from Austria and 64,930 were still left in that country. He explained that the estimates of ICEM for the resettlement of Hungarian refugees from Austria quoted in paragraphs 28 and 29 of document A/AC.79/49 had been revised since the preparation of that document. It was now expected that 54,000 Hungarian refugees would be moved from Austria during 1957 to countries other than the United States. Of these, 24,000 would go to overseas and 30,000 to European countries. It was anticipated that the majority would have been moved by 30 June 1957. The rate of movement was likely to be affected by financial considerations and openings for resettlement.

77. When it was announced that the observer from Hungary wished to make a statement, the representatives of Australia, the United States and the Netherlands reserved their Governments' positions as to the right of the Hungarian observer to represent Hungary in the Committee.

78. The observer from Hungary stated his Government's point of view that the refugees had fled from Hungary because of fear spread by hostile propaganda. His Government was willing to accept the refugees who wished to return, and had declared an amnesty

for this purpose. It was the primary task of refugee organizations to facilitate and promote the voluntary repatriation of refugees. All unaccompanied children up to the age of eighteen years should be sent back to Hungary if their parents so requested.

79. The observer from Hungary requested the Executive Committee to adopt the main proposals put forward in the memorandum presented to the Secretary-General on 15 January 1957 by his country's permanent Representative to the United Nations.^{3/} He proposed that the sum of \$150,000 suggested in document A/AC.79/49 for projects for refugee youths in Austria should be cancelled and that other amounts suggested for the integration of refugees should be reduced. The sums concerned should be used for the repatriation of unaccompanied children and refugees of school age. The High Commissioner should ensure that the necessary funds to cover the costs of repatriation to Hungary were available from the United Nations or from other sources.

80. The representative of Austria replied that no propaganda had issued from his country to influence refugees to leave Hungary. Voluntary repatriation had always been allowed. Approximately 2,000 refugees had already been repatriated. The presence in Austria of a repatriation mission from Hungary was based not on law but on the goodwill of the Austrian Government. Its entry had been authorized after the advice of the High Commissioner had been taken and the mission had already been received by Minister Helmer. No refugee had been compelled to leave Austria. The representative of Austria stated that the repatriation of minors was governed not by international law, but by reciprocal agreements, and that no such agreement existed between his country and Hungary.

81. The High Commissioner stated the policy of his Office on the two questions of repatriation and the treatment of unaccompanied children. The text of this statement is annexed to the summary record of the 32nd meeting.

Hungarian refugees in Austria (discussion of document A/AC.79/49)

82. Introducing the discussion of document A/AC.79/49, the High Commissioner pointed out that, under the terms of General Assembly resolutions 1006 (ES-II) and 129 (XI) and resolution 1039 (XI) on his annual report to the eleventh session, his Office had been assigned the three tasks of co-ordinating assistance to refugees from Hungary, of making appeals, in consultation with the Secretary-General, for assistance to these refugees, and of developing a comprehensive assessment of the needs of Hungarian refugees with the concurrence of the UNREF Executive Committee in order that a target might be set for further appeals.

83. The High Commissioner stated that the calculations in document A/AC.79/49 were based on the expenditures incurred or estimated by the Austrian Government. They were based on 70,000 refugees remaining in Austria for the first six months of 1957 and 35,000 in the second half of the year, but he ex-

pressed the hope that these figures would prove too high.

84. The representative of the United States of America questioned the necessity of setting aside \$250,000 for emergency assistance in the area of the Austro-Hungarian frontier and \$100,000 to finance projects submitted by the voluntary agencies for refugees in camps outside the operation of the League of Red Cross Societies. He felt that other resources were available to meet these needs.

85. The High Commissioner suggested reducing the sum set aside for emergency assistance in the border area to \$100,000 and contributing the balance of \$150,000 to the Austrian Government for its proportion of the care and maintenance costs in camps where the League of Red Cross Societies was already operating. He gave an assurance that the \$100,000 to be spent through the voluntary agencies would be used only for projects for which no other money could be obtained from any source.

86. The representative of Australia questioned the assumption that 70,000 refugees would require maintenance during the first six months of 1957, particularly in view of the most recent figures for influx and the estimates made by ICEM of resettlement possibilities. He also expressed his doubts on the expenditure for military barracks proposed by the Austrian Government.

87. At the suggestion of the representative of the United States the Committee noted with appreciation the estimates of the needs of the Hungarian refugees in Austria prepared by the High Commissioner, as contained in document A/AC.79/49, and authorized him, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to use these estimates as the basis for any appeals that they might deem necessary.

88. The Committee then considered part II of document A/AC.79/49, in which it was recommended that certain long-term projects should be started immediately and that the combined target for UNREF for 1957 should be increased by \$1 million to provide projects for permanent solutions for those Hungarian refugees who could not be resettled and who would require international assistance for their economic integration in Austria. The High Commissioner pointed out that the amounts required for these projects were additional to the emergency assistance and care and maintenance, the estimates of which were shown in part I of the document.

89. Several representatives stated that, although the maximum should be done for Hungarian refugees, in view of the limited funds available for the UNREF programme it was essential that permanent solutions for the other refugees within the mandate of UNHCR should have priority. While they considered that, within the list of projects submitted to the Committee, certain projects would no doubt be valuable, they felt that no decision should be taken until a complete survey had been made of those Hungarian refugees who were likely to remain in Austria.

90. Other representatives argued that a considerable number of Hungarian refugees would remain in Austria and would, no doubt, require assistance for their

^{3/} A/3504.

integration. In order to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to carry out the necessary planning and draw up specific projects for the approval of the Committee at its next session, it was essential for the Committee accordingly to increase the financial target of UNREF.

91. The High Commissioner explained that, while it was essential to pursue the UNREF programme for other refugees within his mandate, measures should be taken for the economic integration of Hungarian refugees before the adverse effects of prolonged camp existence had rendered their integration more difficult.

92. The United States representative questioned the principle of including under the UNREF programme a new category of refugees, since General Assembly resolution 832 (IX), which had authorized the UNREF programme in October 1954, provided that the programme should apply to the specific group of refugees described in the late High Commissioner's report to the ninth session.^{4/}

93. The High Commissioner pointed out, however, that these refugees had been defined in paragraph 164 of that report as "... refugees who are not assimilated into the economies of the countries in which they reside and, in particular, those refugees who are still condemned to live in camps." It was clear from this definition that the primary objective of the UNREF programme was to solve the problem of refugees in camps. Furthermore, under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1039 (XI) of 23 January 1957 on the report presented at the eleventh session, the High Commissioner was to prepare, in consultation with the Secretary-General, a "comprehensive assessment of the needs, both material and financial, of the Hungarian refugees". This assessment was taken to refer, not merely to the necessity for emergency assistance and care and maintenance, but to all needs. The representative of the United States disagreed with this interpretation of General Assembly Resolution 832 (IX).

94. The Executive Committee subsequently agreed that, as an alternative to the proposals in part II of the document under discussion, certain projects in paragraph 91 should be regarded as coming within the programme of emergency assistance described in part I, and should therefore be financed from such funds as would be obtained through the special appeals of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General. This applied particularly to the project for counsellors and camp case workers in an amount of \$75,000, the youth projects in an amount of \$150,000 and the suggested housing study in an amount of \$65,000, totaling \$290,000. In addition, the Committee approved the suggestion that housing projects should be offered for adoption by Governments and private organizations. In so far as difficult cases among the Hungarian refugees required immediate settlement, this could be

provided from funds available for emergency assistance to these refugees. Studies of the long-term needs of the Hungarian refugees in Austria should, however, be continued in conjunction with the Austrian authorities, and should form the basis of recommendations to be submitted by the High Commissioner to the fifth session of the Executive Committee.

Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia (discussion of document A/AC.79/54)

95. The observer from Yugoslavia described the difficulties facing his Government. On 30 January 1957, the total influx amounted to 14,105 refugees accommodated in twenty-six reception centres. The total expenditure for these refugees had amounted to \$1,108,763. The most serious problem was that of accommodation, particularly since hotels now used for this purpose would have to be emptied at the beginning of the tourist season in April. Yugoslavia urgently needed financial assistance and support for the promotion of resettlement of those refugees who wished to emigrate. In spite of its difficulties, the Government would continue to grant asylum to refugees and would assist the integration of those refugees who wished to establish themselves in Yugoslavia.

96. The High Commissioner stated that the estimates contained in document A/AC.79/54 were based on figures supplied by the Government of Yugoslavia. In view of the rate at which refugees were still arriving in Yugoslavia, the estimate of an average figure of 22,000 Hungarian refugees during the first six months of 1957 might prove too low. He felt that countries of resettlement should provide openings for these refugees as well as for those in Austria. His Office had made a contribution of \$50,000 to the Yugoslav Red Cross out of funds contributed for the Hungarian refugees in order both to defray some of its expenses and to direct attention to the problem in Yugoslavia.

97. The representative of Austria and the Observer from Yugoslavia declared their Governments' willingness to accept Hungarian refugees from each other's territory in order to re-unite families.

98. The representative of France stated that his Government would grant asylum to all Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia seeking permanent resettlement in France.

99. The representative of the United Kingdom said that, in view of her country's heavy commitment to the refugees in Austria, the United Kingdom would not be able to admit numbers of refugees from Yugoslavia, but would give consideration to compassionate cases.

100. On the suggestion of the representative of the United States, the Executive Committee noted with appreciation the estimates of needs for the Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia, prepared by the High Commissioner and contained in document A/AC.79/54, and asked him, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to use these estimates, together with those in document A/AC.79/49, in fixing a target for a future appeal. It was understood that a single appeal would be issued covering the needs of the refugees in both Austria and Yugoslavia.

^{4/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/2648).

Resolution

101. The representative of Brazil introduced a draft resolution, co-sponsored by the Netherlands and Switzerland, concerning the serious difficulties caused by the problem of Hungarian refugees to countries of first asylum, notably Austria and Yugoslavia. Amendments to the draft resolution were submitted by various representatives and were accepted by the sponsors. The following resolution was then adopted unanimously:

"The UNREF Executive Committee,

"Recalling General Assembly resolutions A/RESOLUTION/398/[1006 (ES-II)] and A/RESOLUTION/409 [1129 (XI)],

"Recognizing that the fate of the Hungarian refugees constitutes a challenge to the conscience of humanity,

"Having taken note of the data relating to the problem of Hungarian refugees submitted by the High Commissioner,

"Recognizing that this problem causes most serious difficulties to certain countries of first asylum, notably Austria and Yugoslavia, in spite of the substantial contributions being made by many other countries,

"Taking into account the need to ensure family unity,

"Taking note of the statements made on behalf of the Austrian Federal Government by Minister of the Interior Oskar Helmer and Secretary of State Franz Grubhofer,

1. "Declares that the care of refugees is a burden to be shared by the whole world in accordance with the capacities of the respective countries:

2. "Supports the appeals made by the High Commissioner for Refugees in order that the countries of first asylum be enabled to meet the costs of the Hungarian refugee problem, and that countries which are in a position to do so accept the settlement in their territories of an increased number of refugees."

102. The Secretary of State of the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, Mr. Grubhofer, reiterated the urgency of financial help being brought to Hungarian refugees and stated that his Government was in favour of contributions being channelled through the Office of the High Commissioner, for whose assistance in the emergency his Government was most grateful. The High Commissioner expressed the hope that all Governments would act on the further appeal which would be issued by the Secretary-General and himself, but reserved his right to make appeals through diplomatic channels to Governments for financial aid or the promotion of resettlement.

Summary of decisions

103. In the course of its discussion of the problem of the Hungarian refugees in Austria and its consideration of documents A/AC.79/49 and A/AC.79/54, the Committee reached the following decisions, besides adopting the resolution quoted in paragraph 101 above:

(a) It expressed the wish that the League of Red Cross Societies should continue its operations in Austria after 30 June 1957;

(b) It noted with appreciation the estimates of the needs of the Hungarian refugees in Austria and Yugos-

lavia prepared by the High Commissioner as contained in documents A/AC.79/49 and A/AC.79/54, and authorized him, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to use these estimates as the basis for any appeals that they might deem necessary;

(c) It agreed that projects proposed in part II of document A/AC.79/49 should not be financed out of contributions to UNREF. Certain of these projects, however, involving a total sum of \$290,000, could appropriately be financed out of contributions to the appeals made by the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General;

(d) It approved the suggestions that housing projects for Hungarian refugees in Austria should be offered for adoption by Governments and private organizations, and that any immediate help that might be necessary for difficult cases among these refugees be provided from funds available for emergency assistance;

(e) It agreed in principle that future contributions for Hungarian refugees could be used to assist both Austria and Yugoslavia, the allocation of funds being left to the High Commissioner. It was understood that, as regards Austria, he should be guided by the priorities listed in paragraph 83 of document A/AC.79/49.

X - CHINESE REFUGEES IN HONG KONG

104. The document presented to the Committee in its advisory capacity (A/AC.79/47) had been drawn up in accordance with paragraph 144 of the report on the Committee's third session^{5/} which recommended that a short summary should be prepared on the question of the eligibility of these refugees, that the High Commissioner should inquire from the United Kingdom Government whether the present situation of these refugees was such as to warrant taking special measures, and that he should report at the next session whether funds were available to help them.

105. The Committee first heard an appeal for assistance to these refugees from the representative of the United Nations Association of Hong Kong, the details of which are included in the summary record of the 34th meeting and in document A/AC.79/56. A statement by the World Federation of United Nations Associations had also been presented in document A/AC.79/55.

106. The observer from the Government of the Republic of China exhorted the Committee to face the problem and take a decision, which had been repeatedly shelved, and which would enable the international community to accept its humanitarian obligation in bringing help to the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong. In the opinion of his Government, these refugees were undoubtedly within the mandate of UNHCR according to article 6 B of the statute, since in practical terms they were not able to avail themselves of the protection of the Government of the Republic of China. To refuse them the status of refugees on legalistic grounds was to defeat the purpose of the Charter of the United Nations and the statute of the Office of the High Commissioner. The legal considerations set forth in the report of Dr. Hambro had been summarized

^{5/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/3123/Rev.1) Annex II.

in document A/AC.79/47, but the views of the author himself were given in the concluding chapter of the report where he suggested that:

"These refugees are of international concern, and it is inconsistent with the large measure of international interest in other groups of political refugees that this important group should fail to receive international assistance on account of a legal technicality."

He therefore urged most strongly that the Committee should at its present session give a positive opinion to the High Commissioner on the question of eligibility and that an immediate start should be made to bring relief to the most needy cases among these refugees.

107. The United States representative pointed out that his Government was helping groups of non-European refugees in various ways and that assistance to them was indicative of a sympathetic attitude to the problems of refugees everywhere. While there was certainly universal sympathy for the plight of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong and agreement on the urgent need to furnish some help, two hitherto insuperable obstacles remained: the unsolved question whether these refugees came within the mandate of the High Commissioner, and the lack of financial means. The Executive Committee had been forced to recognize that it could not reach any clear agreement on the question of eligibility. Moreover, funds were not available even to carry out in its entirety the limited UNREF programme. The best possible course was to refer the question to the General Assembly. He therefore proposed the following draft resolution:

"The Executive Committee,

"Acting in its advisory capacity to the High Commissioner for Refugees,

"Having considered the problem of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong,

"Agrees that it is unable to reach a clear decision in the matter of the eligibility of Chinese refugees in Hong Kong for assistance;

"Recognizes that there are no uncommitted funds now available for assistance to these refugees;

"Nevertheless considers that the plight of these refugees is such as to be of concern to the international community; and

"Therefore suggests that the General Assembly, at its twelfth session, examine the question of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong when considering the High Commissioner's future activities."

108. A number of delegations, in supporting the resolution, expressed the concern of their Governments that the problem of this large group of refugees should be faced, and the appropriate means of bringing aid to them be found. Some representatives pointed out that the question of eligibility was complicated by the divergent attitudes of states as to the legitimate Government of China.

109. The representative of the United Kingdom, in agreeing to the resolution, drew attention to the views of his Government set forth in paragraphs 21 - 27 of document A/AC.79/47, and particularly to the necessity for the administration of any grant to be agreed between the representative of the High Commissioner in Hong Kong and the Government of Hong Kong.

110. The High Commissioner said it was his understanding that his mandate was a global one and required him to assist refugees in whatever continent they might be. He would welcome the action now proposed to try to bring about a decision on a question which had too long been in suspense. It was his earnest hope that if, at a future date, he were authorized to consider the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong as within his mandate, he would also be given the financial means to give them some effective assistance.

111. The Chairman declared the resolution adopted.

112. The observer from the Republic of China reserved the position of his Government concerning the resolution, in view of the fact that the twelfth session of the General Assembly was nearly a year ahead and that there was no guarantee that the Assembly would give the matter its attention.

113. The Chairman pointed out that the resolution on the question of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong constituted an advice given by the Committee to the High Commissioner. Furthermore, the resolution would be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council and, subsequently, of the General Assembly at its twelfth session, as part of the report on the fourth session of the Executive Committee which would be annexed to the Annual Report of the High Commissioner to the Assembly. The matter would thus be brought before the General Assembly without the necessity of a special request for it to be placed on the agenda.

XI - OTHER BUSINESS

The situation of refugees who had recently left Egypt

114. At the request of several representatives, the High Commissioner submitted a document (A/AC.79/58) giving briefly the information available on the number and situation of refugees who had recently left Egypt.

115. At the suggestion of the representative of Iran, the Committee considered that, since the High Commissioner had not requested its advice on this subject, it should limit itself to taking note of the declaration made by the High Commissioner in his opening statement (A/AC.79/SR.27) and of document A/AC.79/58.

116. The observer from Egypt reserved the position of his Government with regard to the contents of this document.

117. The statements made by the High Commissioner, the representative of Iran and the observer from Egypt on this subject are contained in Appendix III to the present report.

Membership of the UNREF Executive Committee

118. The representative of Australia drew attention to the fact that, according to resolution 565 (XIX) adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its nineteenth session, the membership of the Executive Committee was subject to review at the twenty-third session of the Council. In this connexion, he proposed that the Government of Canada should be added to the members of the Committee. The demonstrated in-

terest of Canada in the solution of refugee problems and the contribution that it had made towards the settlement of refugees made Canada admirably suitable to serve on the Committee.

119. The Committee unanimously supported the proposal, whereupon the observer from Canada expressed the thanks of his Government and its willingness to be proposed as a member of the Executive Committee.

120. The High Commissioner welcomed the suggestion and undertook to transmit it to the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-third session.

Terms of reference of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee

121. The representative of the United States raised the question of the functions and competence of the Standing Programme Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee had been set up to perform a precise but limited task, which was to relieve the Executive Committee of the necessity of studying the plan of operations in detail. Many of the items which had been placed on the agenda of the Sub-Committee were, in his view, outside its sphere of competence, and led to a duplication of its work with that of the Executive Committee.

122. Several representatives expressed their support for that point of view. It was pointed out that the functions of the Sub-Committee were laid down in resolution No. 2 adopted by the Executive Committee

at its first session^{5/} and had been quite precisely defined. With regard to a suggestion that the Sub-Committee might hold its meetings concurrently with those of the Executive Committee, attention was drawn to paragraph B of the resolution specifically requesting the Sub-Committee to meet immediately before each session of the Executive Committee. Moreover, it was thought essential that the Sub-Committee should have sufficient time to examine the programme thoroughly and make a careful report to the Executive Committee.

123. The Committee recognized that, in order to examine thoroughly the plan of operations, the Sub-Committee should also study the progress report to obtain an over-all view of the projects. The Committee also agreed that the "appropriate preparatory work" assigned to the Sub-Committee in paragraph A(1) of the terms of reference implied the right to make suggestions or recommendations which might facilitate its work.

124. The Executive Committee decided that, in conformity with the terms of reference laid down for the Sub-Committee, the agenda for the latter in sessions immediately preceding those of the Executive Committee should, in the future, be confined to the study of the progress report and the plan of operations.

^{5/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/2902 and Add.1), p. 37.

Appendix I

PROJECTS IN CATEGORIES A/1957, B/1957 AND C/1957

Category A/1957.- Projects approved and authorized for implementation funds being immediately available

The following projects are to be financed from the contribution of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

				<u>UNREF</u>
				<u>Contribution</u>
<u>Item</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Project symbol</u>	<u>Type of project</u>	<u>US \$</u>
Projects for permanent solutions				
1.	Austria	PS/36/AUS/1956 (b)	Vocational training	2,051
2.	Austria	PS/36/AUS/1957	Vocational training	5,962
3.	Austria	-	Reserve for continuation of project PS/36/AUS in 1958	6,000
4.	Austria	PS/39-41/AUS/1957	Aid to university students	6,346
5.	Austria	PS/87/AUS/1957	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	12,770
6.	Austria	PS/88-90/AUS/1957	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	10,000
7.	Austria	PS/91-92/AUS/1957 (b)	Case-workers in camps	13,742
8.	Austria	PS/97/AUS	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	30,000
9.	Austria	PS/101/AUS (a)	Post-prison care.	10,000
			<u>Total, Austria</u>	<u>96,871</u>
10.	Germany	PS/5/GER/1957	Aid to university students	5,000
11.	Germany	PS/7/GER/1957 (a)	Employment counselling and placement	25,000
12.	Germany	PS/26/GER/1957 (a)	Small loans	16,430
13.	Germany	PS/28/GER	Housing settlement (Oldenburg)	9,524

Item	Country	Project symbol	Type of project	UNREF
				Contribution US \$
14.	Germany	PS/36/GER	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees (rent sub- sidies)	7,143
15.	Germany	PS/37/GER	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees (rent subsidies)	16,667
16.	Germany	PS/39/GER	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees (tempo- rary accommodation).	7,143
17.	Germany	PS/40/GER (b) - (d)	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	76,785
			<u>Total, Germany</u>	<u>163,692</u>
18.	Greece	P3/5/GRE/1957	Vocational training	6,700
19.	Greece	PS/13/GRE	Establishment of community centre and school .	25,000
			<u>Total Greece</u>	<u>31,700</u>
20.	Italy		Reserve for rehabilitation of handicapped refu- gees (post-TB village).	35,000 ^{a/}
			<u>Total Italy</u>	<u>35,000</u>
21.	Turkey	PS/2/TUR	Vocational training	833
22.	Turkey	PS/3/TUR	Vocational training	1,428
			<u>Total Turkey</u>	<u>2,261</u>
			Total - Permanent solutions	329,524
<u>Projects for settlement of difficult cases</u>				
23.	Egypt	DC/2/EGY	Provision of hospital care.	8,085
24.	Greece	DC/3/GRE/1957	Settlement in a local institution (Athens)	8,000
25.	Turkey	DC/9/TUR	Settlement in a local institution (Istanbul)	5,400
			<u>Total - Settlement of difficult cases</u>	<u>21,485</u>
			<u>Total category A/1957</u>	<u>351,009</u>

^{a/}An additional amount of \$7,000 will be spent directly by the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Category B/1957. - Projects approved and authorized for implementation as funds become available

Item	Country	Project symbol	Type of project	UNREF
				contribution US \$
Projects for emergency aid				
1.	Egypt	EA/1/EGY/1957	Medical assistance and supplementary feeding fuel and clothing	2,500
2.	Greece	EA/1/GRE/1957	Medical assistance	11,880
3.	Greece	EA/2/GRE/1957	Supplementary feeding	8,120
4.	Italy	EA/1/ITA/1957	Medical insurance	20,400
5.	Jordan,Le- banon,Syria	EA/1/M-EA/1957	Medical assistance, supplementary feeding and emergency relief	7,300
6.	Turkey	EA/1/TUR/1957	Medical assistance, supplementary feeding and emergency relief	12,000
7.	Various countries	EA/1/IMP/1957	Imprest account	10,000
8.	Various countries	EA/1/RAC/1957	Reserve account	10,000
9.	Various countries	EA/2/RAC/1957	Emergency reserve	50,000

Item	Country	Project symbol	Type of project	UNREF
				Contribution US \$
Shanghai operation				
10.	China	SH/1/1957	Direct UNREF expenditure	127,000
11.	China	SH/2/1957	Assistance through a voluntary agency	57,600
12.	China	SH/3/1957	Assistance through a voluntary agency	9,000
13.	China	SH/4/1957	Assistance through a voluntary agency	9,000
14.	China	SH/5/CHI/PAR	Resettlement in Paraguay	32,503
Projects for housing settlements				
15.	Austria	PS/83/AUS	Housing settlement (Lienz II).	33,846
16.	Austria	PS/95/AUS/1957	Co-ordination of housing projects.	17,668
17.	Austria	PS/HP/AUS/1957 ^{a/}	Housing programme 1957	792,308
18.	Germany	PS/17/GER	Housing settlement (Hamburg).	92,857
19.	Germany	PS/20/GER/Rev.1	Individual housing	47,619
20.	Germany	PS/27/GER	Housing settlement (Hannover).	28,571
21.	Germany	PS/29/GER	Housing settlement (Lengwarden/Fedderwarden)	9,524
22.	Germany	PS/30/GER	Housing settlement (L/K Oldenburg).	23,809
23.	Germany	PS/31/GER	Housing settlement (Osnabrück).	23,809
24.	Germany	PS/32/GER	Housing settlement (Rhein-Gellendorf)	90,476
25.	Germany	PS/33/GER	Housing settlement (Ludwigsburg)	32,857
26.	Germany	PS/34/GER	Housing settlement (Neckarsulm).	21,429
27.	Germany	PS/35/GER	Housing settlement (Boeblingen).	11,429
Other projects				
28.	China	DC/13/CHI/SWI	Settlement in institutions in Switzerland	19,000
29.	Greece	PS/7/GRE/1957	Preselection and counselling	22,595
30.	Greece	PS/12/GRE/1957 (a)	Housing and special assistance	100,470
31.	France	PS/3/FRA	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	57,143
32.	Lebanon	PS/1/LEB	Establishment in crafts and trades	6,050
33.	Syria	PS/1/SYR	Establishment in crafts and trades	10,680
34.	Turkey	PS/1/TUR	Establishment in crafts and trades	35,500
35.	France	DC/2/FRA	Settlement in a local institution (Lailly-en-Val)	50,000
36.	Austria	PS/52,54-58/AUS/1956(b)	Employment counselling and placement	26,346
37.	Austria	PS/99/AUS (a)	Employment counselling and placement	5,000
38.	Germany	PS/24/GER/1957	Employment counselling and placement	3,714
39.	Germany	PS/40/GER (a)	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	25,595
40.	Various countries	PS/1/RES/EUR ^{a/}	Promotion of resettlement in Europe of difficult-to-resettle cases	50,000
41.	Italy	DC/15/ITA	Settlement in a local institution (Torre Pelice).	30,000
42.	Greece	PS/12/GRE/1957 (b)	Housing and special assistance	100,469
43.	China	DC/14/CHI/ITA	Settlement in an institution in Italy (Torre Pelice)	40,000
44.	Austria	PS/25,33,37/AUS/1956(b)	Vocational training	16,846
45.	Belgium	PS/3/BEL	Credit facilities	20,000
46.	Greece	PS/10/GRE/1957	Credit facilities	30,000
47.	Germany	PS/38/GER (a)	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees (temporary accommodation).	8,334
48.	Turkey	PS/4/TUR	Aid to university students	2,004
49.	Turkey	PS/5/TUR	Turkish language training	533
50.	Greece	DC/5/GRE/1957	Settlement in a local institution (Salonika)	32,000
51.	Austria	PS/96/AUS (a)	Small loans	50,000
52.	Greece	PS/11/GRE/1957	Establishment in industry, crafts and trades	46,740
53.	China	DC/15/CHI/EUR ^{a/}	Settlement in institutions outside China	50,000
54.	Austria	PS/1/AUS/1955(d) (iii)	Credit facilities	25,000
55.	Germany	PS/3/GER/1957	Vocational training	50,000
56.	Turkey	DC/8/TUR	Settlement in a local institution (Istanbul)	8,000
57.	France	PS/10/FRA	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	38,000
58.	Greece	PS/4/GRE/1955/Rev.1 (d) (ii)	Consolidation of economic and social position in urban areas	45,937
59.	Various countries	DC/4/EUR	Settlement in institutions in Europe	25,000

^{a/} Provisional symbol, pending implementation.

Item	Country	Project symbol	Type of project	
60.	Austria	PS/91-92/AUS/1957 (a)	Case-workers in camps	13,743
61.	Egypt	PS/1/EGY	Establishment in crafts and trades	7,740
62.	Egypt	PS/2/EGY	Vocational training	1,825
63.	Egypt	PS/3/EGY	Assistance for naturalization.	1,596
64.	France	DC/3/FRA	Settlement in a local institution (Var)	50,000
65.	Austria	PS/1/AUS/1955 (e)	Credit facilities	48,382
66.	Germany	PS/7/GER/1957 (b)	Employment counselling and placement	26,000
67.	Greece	PS/12/GRE/1957 (c)	Housing and special assistance	80,375
68.	Austria	PS/96/AUS (b)	Small loans	50,000
69.	France	PS/7/FRA	Integration of refugee intellectuals	30,000
70.	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	DC/3/M-EA/EUR ^{a/}	Settlement in institutions in the Middle East and Europe	10,000
71.	Greece	PS/6/GRE/1957	Aid to university students	13,742
72.	Austria	PS/52,54-58/AUS/1957(a)	Employment counselling and placement	27,858
73.	Austria	PS/93,94/AUS/1957 (a)	Employment counselling and placement	3,393
74.	Austria	PS/99/AUS (b)	Employment counselling and placement	5,000
75.	Austria	PS/100/AUS	Seminars for employment counsellors.	1,000
76.	Austria	PS/2/1955/AUS (c) (i)	Establishment in agriculture	20,000
77.	Greece	DC/15/GRE	Settlement in a local institution (Athens)	45,000
78.	Greece	PS/3/GRE/1956 (a)	Establishment in crafts and trades	62,563
79.	Austria	PS/1/AUS/1955 (a) (i)	Credit facilities	50,000
80.	Turkey	DC/7/TUR	Settlement in a local institution (Istanbul).	12,000
81.	Austria	PS/101/AUS (b)	Post-prison care.	10,000
82.	Austria	PS/25,33,37/AUS/1957 (a)	Vocational training	26,481
83.	Greece	DC/14/GRE	Settlement in local institutions.	5,000
84.	Greece	PS/4/GRE/1956 (a)	Consolidation of economic and social position in urban areas	49,438
85.	France	PS/8/FRA	Establishment in crafts and trades	28,571
86.	Austria	PS/42,44,45/AUS/1957	Aid to university students	8,654
87.	Austria	PS/48-51/AUS/1957	Aid to high school pupils.	20,000
88.	Austria	PS/60/AUS/1957	Assistance for naturalization.	10,000
89.	Greece	PS/3/GRE/1956 (b)	Establishment in crafts and trades	62,562
90.	Germany	PS/38/GER/ (b)	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees (temporary accommodation).	8,333
91.	Austria	PS/50/AUS/1957	German language training	10,000
92.	Austria	PS/1/AUS/1956(a) (ii)	Credit facilities	50,000
93.	France	PS/4/FRA	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	55,914
94.	Germany	PS/26/GER/1957 (b)	Small loans	28,570
Total category B/1957				3,558,201

^{a/} Provisional symbol, pending implementation.

Category C/1957.- Projects approved for implementation, subject to authorization by the standing programme sub-committee

Country	Project symbol	Type of project	UNREF contribution US \$
<u>Austria:</u>	PS/1/AUS/1956 (b)	Credit facilities	51,618
	PS/2/AUS/1955 (c) (ii)	Establishment in agriculture	50,000
	PS/25,33,37/AUS/1957 (b)	Vocational training	26,480
	PS/52,54-58/1957 (b)	Employment counselling and placement	27,857
	PS/93,94/AUS/1957 (b)	Employment counselling and placement	3,392
Total, Austria			159,347
<u>France:</u>	PS/9/FRA	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees	57,142
	PS/11/FRA	Rehabilitation of handicapped refugees (agricultural co-operative)	42,857
Total, France			99,999

		<u>UNREF</u> <u>Contribution</u> <u>US \$</u>	
<u>Country</u>	<u>Project symbol</u>	<u>Type of project</u>	
<u>Greece:</u>	PS/1/GRE/1956	Establishment in agriculture	140,700
	PS/4/GRE/1956 (b) - (e)	Consolidation of economic and social position in urban areas	197,750
	PS/4/GRE/1957	Consolidation of economic and social position in urban areas	189,211
		<u>Total, Greece</u>	<u>527,661</u>
		<u>Total category C/1957</u>	<u>787,007</u>

Appendix II

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE UNREF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Resolution (No. 4) concerning the problem of Hungarian refugees

The UNREF Executive Committee,
Recalling General Assembly resolutions A/RESOLUTION/398 and A/RESOLUTION/409,

Recognizing that the fate of the Hungarian refugees constitutes a challenge to the conscience of humanity,

Having taken note of the data relating to the problem of Hungarian refugees submitted by the High Commissioner,

Recognizing that this problem causes most serious difficulties to certain countries of first asylum, notably Austria and Yugoslavia, in spite of the substantial contributions being made by many other countries,

Taking into account the need to ensure family unity,
Taking note of the statements made on behalf of the Austrian Federal Government by Minister of the Interior Oskar Helmer and Secretary of State Franz Grubhofer,

1. Declares that the care of refugees is a burden to be shared by the whole world in accordance with the capacities of the respective countries;

2. Supports the appeals made by the High Commissioner for Refugees in order that the countries of

first asylum be enabled to meet the costs of the Hungarian refugee problem, and that countries which are in a position to do so accept the settlement in their territories of an increased number of refugees.

Resolution (No. 5) concerning Chinese refugees in Hong Kong

The UNREF Executive Committee,
Acting in its advisory capacity to the High Commissioner for Refugees,

Having considered the problem of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong,

Agrees that it is unable to reach a clear decision in the matter of the eligibility of Chinese refugees in Hong Kong for assistance,

Recognizes that there are no uncommitted funds now available for assistance to these refugees,

Nevertheless considers that the plight of these refugees is such as to be of concern to the international community, and

Therefore suggests that the General Assembly at its twelfth session examine the question of the Chinese refugees in Hong Kong when considering the High Commissioner's future activities.

Appendix III

STATEMENTS MADE BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAN AND THE OBSERVER FROM EGYPT IN CONNEXION WITH DOCUMENT A/AC.79/58

Statement by the High Commissioner (made at the 27th meeting)

Another emergency problem is now arising: that of refugees from Egypt. There is no doubt in my mind that those refugees from Egypt who are not able, or not willing, to avail themselves of the protection of the Government of their nationality fall under the mandate of my Office.

They may have no nationality or they may have lost their nationality, or, for valid reasons may not be

willing to avail themselves of the protection of their country of nationality. I am therefore ready to exercise the legal and diplomatic functions of my Office in their favour. I am following with concern the development of this question, and it is partly because of these various emergency situations which we can see developing before us that I have proposed in the plan of operations the creation of an enlarged emergency reserve. I think the amount proposed can perhaps be criticized for being too small in relation to the potentialities of the present situation.

Statement by the representative of Iran (made at the 34th meeting)

Upon the request of several delegations, the High Commissioner submitted to us document A/AC.79/58, which contains some information and statistics. In view of the statement made by the High Commissioner in one of the previous meetings of the Committee and of the information contained in the document which I have just mentioned, I do not believe that a problem arises for discussion. The High Commissioner did not ask the Committee to act either in its executive or in its consultative capacity. This is why, in the opinion

of my delegation, all that is necessary for the Committee is for it to take note of the document.

Statement by the Observer from Egypt (made at the 34th meeting)

The Egyptian delegation wishes entirely to reserve its position with regard to the action that might be taken on document A/AC.79/58, submitted by the High Commissioner, on the subject under discussion and I would like these reservations to be specifically mentioned in the record.