

# United Nations GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## EIGHTH SESSION

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*President:* Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi PANDIT (India).

#### Presentation to the General Assembly of the Directors-General of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

1. The PRESIDENT: Before the General Assembly continues with the balloting, I would like to present to the Assembly the new Directors-General of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization who have been elected to their high offices in the past year. First, I should like to introduce to the General Assembly the new Director-General of the World Health Organization, Dr. Marcolino H. Candau, of Brazil, who was elected at the sixth session of the World Health Assembly to succeed Dr. G. Brock Chisholm, the previous Director-General, as from 21 July 1953.

2. Dr. CANDAU (Director-General, World Health Organization): I deeply appreciate the opportunity I have been given today to meet the distinguished representatives to the United Nations General Assembly. Since I have been in office for a little more than two months, it would hardly seem appropriate for me to undertake a detailed analysis of the present and future work of the World Health Organization. Therefore may I be permitted, this time, to limit myself to a very few remarks on what is in my opinion the most essential feature of WHO, namely, its unmistakable and close relationship with the United Nations. This relationship is forcefully expressed in the theme of this

year's United Nations Day: peace, justice and progress for all.

3. All those who have embarked upon the arduous task of building the world of tomorrow know that enduring peace will become a reality only if no efforts are spared to raise the standards of physical, mental and social well-being throughout the world. Indeed, whatever the particular path may be that we have chosen towards the achievement of collective security, that path must eventually lead into the broad avenue of economic and social justice.

4. In mobilizing all international resources for the improvement of the health of all people, WHO will continue to do everything in its power to help eliminate the dangerous gap which today exists between the people of a very few relatively advanced countries and the great majority, who are still deprived of the minimum requirements for a fully developed life.

5. It is generally accepted today that investment in the health of the people is the best possible way to develop the human and material resources of the world. All our schemes for raising productivity will remain mere abstractions as long as the strength of the workers is sapped by disease and infirmity. I am therefore convinced that, by furthering health on a world-wide level, WHO is making a real and significant contribution to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all, which is the only basis on which political equality and justice among nations can be established.

6. My confidence in the organization has been considerably strengthened by the impressions I have brought back from a trip I have just completed to parts of Asia and Africa. At WHO regional committee meetings in Tokyo, Bangkok and Kampala, which I attended, a series of imaginative yet sound blueprints were examined and adopted to raise the low health conditions under which the people of those regions have been living for many centuries. To anybody who still despairs of the future establishment of a prosperous and peaceful world community, those meetings, I submit, provide the most reassuring and the most inspiring examples of true international understanding in action. They are indeed proof that men can sit round a table and freely—and constructively—discuss their problems, not only in relation to themselves but also in relation to their region and ultimately in relation to the whole world.

7. I believe that the best contribution of WHO to the success of your work is its ability to develop among its member States a sense of world conscience as far as health is concerned. By the same token, its most important handicap is the fact that a number of countries do not participate in its work. I most sincerely hope that the earnest will of all peoples to put an end to what has become known as the cold war, as well as

the effort of this great Assembly to improve conditions of international understanding, may make it possible for WHO to regain the universal character it must have if it is to promote health on a world-wide basis. Once this is accomplished, no obstacle will prevent WHO and its sister agencies from fulfilling the tasks you have assigned to them, namely, to lay the economic and social foundations for peace, security and prosperity.

8. The PRESIDENT: I should now like to present to the General Assembly Mr. Luther H. Evans, of the United States, who was elected Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at the second extraordinary session of the UNESCO General Conference on 4 July 1953, to succeed Mr. Torres Bodet, the former Director-General.

9. Mr. EVANS (Director-General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization): I am grateful for the honour and the privilege of addressing a few words to the United Nations General Assembly so soon after my election as Director-General of UNESCO.

10. Like the United Nations itself, UNESCO was conceived and designed during the strenuous and tragic times of the Second World War. Its creators originally planned it in London, in the actual din of war. In these circumstances, it cannot be alleged that the organization is an impractical experiment in idealism. It meets a continuing and profound need which serious men faced seriously.

11. Broadly speaking, we in UNESCO seek to perform two functions in the fields of education, science and culture: to help the masses to satisfy more fully the elementary needs of the mind and, at the other end of the scale, to encourage and assist the specialists in many areas of investigation to make those pioneering thrusts of the mind ever further into the unexplored areas of human knowledge.

12. It is fair to say that, as to the first objective, UNESCO's budget does not allow it to abolish illiteracy everywhere or to make the benefits of science or of culture available to all peoples by direct means. Some direct action we can take as, for example, when we train groups of selected fundamental education workers to train larger groups in their own countries, or when we bring scientists together in order to co-ordinate research or to exchange information on specific subjects, such as the economic development of the arid zones, or when we work for the broader understanding of the educational roles of cultural institutions, such as museums and libraries, but our main line of action consists in facilitating and stimulating government action by our member States, and here our achievement is already considerable.

13. In this closely integrated world, there are few fields in which one country can introduce a measure of social progress without at least some knowledge of the experience of other countries. The collection and distribution of data, the bringing together of experts from different backgrounds to thrash out their difficulties in common, and the comparison and evaluation of achievements and plans on a national level, are all tasks which an international organization can perform with special aptitude.

14. As to creative and intellectual work, it is a commonplace that, although such work can be conducted in isolation, it can be much better done against the background of similar work being performed elsewhere. Here, as in many other of UNESCO's activities, the exchange of information and the meeting of minds become the operational goals. I believe that we are making noteworthy progress in the new disciplines of the social sciences by this type of activity.

15. I realize that representatives in this General Assembly are justifiably interested in the attitudes of the specialized agencies towards the problem of co-ordination. I am glad to say that in UNESCO the work of co-ordination is developing steadily, not through any blind acceptance of an abstract doctrine, but because co-ordination corresponds to the real needs of common objectives. Increasingly we in UNESCO have found that major projects, such as those pertaining to fundamental education and free and compulsory primary schooling, can be made more successful through full use of the possibilities of joint effort among the various agencies. More and more we are consciously relating our plans for future activities to the main themes of economic development and social progress as laid down in the priorities established by the Economic and Social Council. I feel confident that the system of friendly collaboration which we have developed in the United Nations family will become increasingly fruitful.

16. No small part of the success which I expect us to achieve will be due to the fine leadership we are being provided by the Secretary-General to whom I wish to pay public tribute on this occasion. It is in this setting of collaboration that UNESCO performs its great task of building in the minds of men the foundation of a lasting peace.

#### **Election of six members of the Economic and Social Council (*concluded*)**

[Agenda item 15]

17. The PRESIDENT: We now return to the election to the remaining vacancy on the Economic and Social Council. This morning [450th meeting], on the first ballot, the General Assembly elected the United Kingdom, Ecuador, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Norway to the Council.

18. A second ballot will now be held for the remaining vacancy under rule 94 of the rules of procedure. This is the first of the restricted ballots. Indonesia and Pakistan, having obtained the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot, are therefore the eligible candidates.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Borberg (Denmark) and Mr. Franco y Franco (Dominican Republic) acted as tellers.*

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	60
<i>Number of abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	60
<i>Required majority:</i>	40

<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Pakistan .....	32
Indonesia .....	28

19. The PRESIDENT: As there is no election, we shall proceed to the second restricted ballot.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Borberg (Denmark) and Mr. Franco y Franco (Dominican Republic) acted as tellers.*

Number of ballot papers:	60
Number of abstentions:	0
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	60
Required majority:	40
Number of votes obtained:	
Pakistan .....	33
Indonesia .....	27

20. The PRESIDENT: We shall therefore proceed to the third restricted ballot.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Borberg (Denmark) and Mr. Franco y Franco (Dominican Republic) acted as tellers.*

Number of ballot papers:	60
Number of abstentions:	2
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	58
Required majority:	39
Number of votes obtained:	
Pakistan .....	37
Indonesia .....	21

21. The PRESIDENT: We have now had three inconclusive ballots with respect to the election to the sixth place on the Economic and Social Council. In these circumstances, rule 94 of the rules of procedure provides that "after the third inconclusive ballot votes may be cast for any eligible person or Member". Any of the Members, with the exception of those continuing on the Economic and Social Council or those which have already been elected, will therefore be eligible in the fourth ballot, which we shall now take.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Borberg (Denmark) and Mr. Franco y Franco (Dominican Republic) acted as tellers.*

Number of ballot papers:	60
Number of abstentions:	1
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	58
Required majority:	39
Number of votes obtained:	
Pakistan .....	38
Indonesia .....	18
Philippines .....	1
Afganistan .....	1

22. The PRESIDENT: As the required majority has not been obtained, we shall proceed to the second unrestricted ballot.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Borberg (Denmark) and Mr. Franco y Franco (Dominican Republic) acted as tellers.*

Number of ballot papers:	60
Number of abstentions:	1
Number of invalid ballots:	2
Number of valid ballots:	57
Required majority:	38

*Number of votes obtained:*

Pakistan .....	38
Indonesia .....	17
Afghanistan .....	1
Philippines .....	1

*Pakistan, having obtained the required two-thirds majority, was elected a member of the Economic and Social Council.*

### Election of two members of the Trusteeship Council

[Agenda item 16]

23. The PRESIDENT: We come now to the election of two members to fill the vacancies which will occur in the membership of the Trusteeship Council when the terms of office of the Dominican Republic and Thailand expire at the end of this year. All Member of the United Nations, including the two retiring members of the Trusteeship Council, are eligible for this election, with the exception of the ten members whose terms do not expire on 31 December next. Thus the Members not eligible in this election are Australia, Belgium, China, El Salvador, France, New Zealand, Syria, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States. As in the previous elections, there will be no nominations and the voting will take place by secret ballot.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Borberg (Denmark) and Mr. Franco y Franco (Dominican Republic) acted as tellers.*

Number of ballot papers:	60
Number of abstentions:	1
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	59
Required majority:	40

*Number of votes obtained:*

India .....	55
Haiti .....	51
Indonesia .....	12
Thailand .....	1
Dominican Republic .....	1
Ecuador .....	1
Norway .....	1
Philippines .....	1

*India and Haiti, having obtained the required two-thirds majority, were elected members of the Trusteeship Council.*

24. The PRESIDENT: This concludes the elections to the Councils, and I should like to express my appreciation to the tellers for their services during the balloting.

### Procedural decision concerning the agenda of the meeting

*Pursuant to rule 67 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss items 44 and 37 of the agenda of the General Assembly, which appeared on the agenda of the meeting.*



## Report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds: report of the Fifth Committee (A/2491)

[Agenda item 44]

*Mr. Ahson (Pakistan), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, presented the report of that Committee (A/2491) and then spoke as follows:*

25. Mr. AHSON (Pakistan), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I should like to point out that there is a certain degree of urgency connected with the report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds [A/2478]. It is desirable that a new negotiating committee should be nominated by the President of this session as soon as possible, in order that it may continue the useful work of its predecessors—work which, without any exaggeration, may be regarded as one of the finest achievements of the United Nations.

26. The PRESIDENT: I would call the General Assembly's attention to the fact that the draft resolution [A/2491] now before it was adopted unanimously by the Fifth Committee.

*The draft resolution was adopted without objection.*

## Financial reports and accounts, and reports of the Board of Auditors:

(a) United Nations, for the financial year ended 31 December 1952,

(b) United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1952: reports of the Fifth Committee (A/2492 and A/2493)

[Agenda item 37]

27. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now vote on the two draft resolutions [A/2492 and A/2493] presented by the Fifth Committee. I would call attention to the fact that the draft resolution contained in document A/2493 was adopted unanimously by the Fifth Committee.

*The draft resolution contained in document A/2492 was adopted by 48 votes to one, with 5 abstentions.*

*The draft resolution contained in document A/2493 was adopted without objection.*

## Continuation on a permanent basis of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

[Agenda item 29]

28. The PRESIDENT: Members will recall that, under the terms of resolution 417 (V), adopted at the 314th meeting held on 1 December 1950, it was decided that the General Assembly should "again consider the future of the Fund at the expiration of three years, with the object of continuing the Fund on a permanent basis". On the recommendation of the General Committee, the Assembly decided at its 435th meeting that this item should be dealt with directly in plenary meeting, without reference to a committee.

29. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq): After a long wait, we have arrived at the stage in the development of UNICEF where the tent should give place to a firmly established and solid house. This Assembly is being

asked to take a decision to make UNICEF a permanent organization, and it is fitting that, from this rostrum, the world should hear the call for the saving of life rather than for its destruction. We should also tell the world what UNICEF has done. This we do from a sense of duty towards those who need to know. The Fund needs no propaganda; the facts speak for themselves.

30. Since the Executive Board of UNICEF was created on 11 December 1946 [resolution 57 (I)], it has been concerned solely with the saving and maintaining of life. Where politics dominated organs of the United Nations, and deadlocks locked the debates in committees and councils, UNICEF was relatively free of such hindrances. Life was the aim of its efforts, and achievement was the reward of its toil. Through the years it evolved from an emergency organization, called upon to meet the ravages of war, into a long-range policy-making board calculated to alleviate the ills of the human race. This evolution has been of great value. From the feeding of children in Greece to the saving of others in China, from clothing the naked in Europe to organizing disease-fighting projects in Africa, from helping expectant mothers in Asia to undertaking long-term programmes in South America, UNICEF has come a long way from "improviser" to "organizer". There is no end to what it can do.

31. Let us look at its achievements. The Fund is currently assisting more than 200 different child-care projects in seventy-five countries. Each of the following major categories accounts for about one-fifth of the total number of projects: maternal and child welfare; control of malaria and other insect-borne diseases; BCG vaccination and other tuberculosis control; child nutrition, including long-range feeding and milk and other food conservation. The remaining one-fifth includes projects for the control of venereal diseases, and emergency aid projects.

32. The following facts will provide some idea of the human side of those projects. More than 50 million persons have been tested for and more than 22 million vaccinated against tuberculosis; approximately 5 million were vaccinated in 1952. There remains in the world a child population of about 300 million not yet reached by UNICEF, some 20 million of whom will have been examined by the end of 1953. In the realm of venereal disease, more than 11 million have been examined and more than 3 million treated. For the three years, 1951, 1952 and 1953, the number treated is expected to reach 2,800,000. Treatment is required by an additional 9 million in various countries in Asia, while in Africa the number of cases runs into the millions. Approximately 12 million mothers and children have been protected against malaria and typhus; almost two-thirds of this number benefited from operations during 1952. For 1953, the total number protected is expected to reach 17 million.

33. In the feeding project, some 11,500,000 mothers and children have received UNICEF milk and other foods during various periods. At the end of 1952, 763,000 were benefiting from long-range programmes in eighteen countries and 682,000 were receiving emergency rations because of disasters in four countries. Included among these were Palestine refugees. In June 1953, 966,000 were receiving milk or other food in long-range and emergency programmes. An

estimated 1,850,000 mothers and children are currently receiving daily rations of free, safe milk through plants equipped by UNICEF. This figure will reach three million when all currently planned plants have been completed.

34. The Fund also has programmes for maternal and child welfare. The Board has approved aid for some 5,300 welfare centres of this type. It has also established DDT and penicillin production programmes. This began only recently and such programmes are long-term projects. It is too early to estimate the number who will benefit from those particular programmes.

35. It might be wondered where the money for all those gigantic projects is coming from. I think that the world is entitled to know of the generosity of the contributors to UNICEF, and, incidentally, I believe that some misconceptions in this regard should be corrected.

36. Up to the present time, the United States Government has contributed just over \$97,250,000; other governments have contributed approximately \$45 million. These contributions do not take into account the extensive "internal matching" of governments. Aid given by UNICEF, except in cases of emergency, always requires a substantial expenditure from local resources. Out of every dollar spent on child-care projects, the local government spends 61 cents, as compared to 39 cents contributed by UNICEF. As a matter of fact, these figures understate the stimulus of UNICEF, since they do not take into account local expenditures which will be made on a continuing basis for the programmes after UNICEF has ceased; nor do they take into account the large amount of voluntary effort which is put into the programmes.

37. There are also private and non-governmental sources of income. Innumerable people are working for UNICEF in this field, without any pay or reward except that of achievement. No compliment is too great for those true servants of humanity.

38. May I give the Assembly an instance that has never ceased to move me. Last November, Senator Wiley handed me, in my capacity of First Vice-Chairman of the UNICEF Executive Board, a cheque for \$647.46. This amount was collected voluntarily by the children of Sheboken, Wisconsin, the Senator's home state, on their Halloween pranks. Instead of spending it here and there, as is the fashion of children everywhere, they made a gift of it to UNICEF. Morally, this was worth a million dollars. That children should be moved by such a high purpose was at once a compliment to them, to their parents, and to their country. It is certainly a compliment to the American people, who have never tired of supporting UNICEF, and, I hope, never will. I shall treasure this incident for ever.

39. The Board takes pride in a few matters. There are sixty Members in the United Nations; in UNICEF, sixty-nine governments have so far contributed to it since its inception, including the Vatican.

40. The Board also takes pride in the types of projects which it has set itself to realize, projects which go to the root of the matter. Having in past years saved millions of women and children from death and starvation in emergency situations, it is now orienting its activities towards long-term projects calculated to improve the health and the standard of living of

under-developed countries. It provides equipment and supplies for maternal and child welfare centres in rural areas, children's hospitals, school health services, clinics, laboratories, and so on. It provides supplies and equipment for the control of diseases widely affecting children, such as malaria and other insect-borne diseases, pre-natal venereal diseases, tuberculosis, diphtheria and whooping cough, to say nothing of projects aimed at the development of techniques for treating trachoma in rural areas. The provision of dried, skimmed and whole milk and fish-liver oil capsules is now an established project for UNICEF. The Board provides food, blankets and drugs to control epidemics, and other supplies for children and mothers in emergency situations such as earthquakes, famine, floods, droughts and volcanic eruptions.

41. The world must know these facts. It must also know that UNICEF has operated in all continents and reaches the high and the low. As deep as the Belgian Congo in the heart of Africa, as far away as Korea in Eastern Asia, it has never flinched from facing situations which needed its help, nor hesitated to give, even when it had practically no money. Its prime consideration has always been how many women and children there are in the world who need its help, and how much man has to do to wipe out the cruelty of man and the excesses of nature. There are so many of the needy that I cannot help marvelling how far a small amount of money can go to lift a people from the degradation of poverty and disease.

42. Let me give an illustration which is somewhat astounding in itself. The sum of \$1.00 gives 9 children a glass of milk for 7 days; \$1.00 provides enough vaccine to protect 39 children against diphtheria and enough vaccine to immunize 24 children against tuberculosis; \$1.00 buys enough fish-liver oil to protect 13 children against diphtheria; \$1.00 buys enough penicillin to treat 8 children for yaws; and, finally, \$1.00 safeguards 13 people against malaria for a whole year. A single dollar does all this. Let us stop to think, by way of comparison, how much the world is spending on armaments which will be out-dated in a few years, when the process will be repeated; and if there comes a time to use those armaments, humanity will wipe out the very dear things it has taken so long to build, and with so much care and heartache.

43. In the circumstances, it is our earnest belief and hope, nay, indeed, our prayer that this General Assembly will not hesitate to establish UNICEF on a permanent basis. The Fund dares all other organizations in the United Nations to produce as many healthy and life-saving results. It has the perfect type of international co-operation, and it is proud of it. It seeks no prizes except the alleviation of the ills of humanity. It does not deal with armaments and wars, but saves life and prolongs life. It has given to the human race more than can be measured in money. It has the right to claim now, having spent a hectic childhood, a majority that promises to be even more helpful to the world than its minority ever was. Under the able guidance of Mr. Lindt, the Chairman of the Board, and Mr. Pate, the Executive Director, UNICEF has earned the right to be perpetuated on a permanent basis, and it should be the duty of all countries, Member States or not, to make it a reality and to give the mothers and children of the world immeasurably more than that which wars and destruction have taken away from them. It should not falter or flinch, and with the

determination and the blessings of the family of nations, it should be able to write a golden letter in the otherwise dark history book of our time.

44. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia): The item which the General Assembly has now taken up, namely, the question of the continuation of the Children's Fund, has already been considered this year in other United Nations bodies. The Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council recommended that the Fund should be kept in existence, and the Economic and Social Council has unanimously made the same recommendation [*resolution 495 (XVI)*] to this Assembly. Together with a number of other delegations, Australia has introduced a draft resolution [*A/L.163*] to give effect to this recommendation of the Council.

45. Three possibilities are open: first, to discontinue special United Nations activities on behalf of children; secondly, to continue work on behalf of children but to do it through other existing agencies; thirdly, to continue work on behalf of children through UNICEF.

46. As for the first possibility, the Australian view is that we should be justified in discontinuing work on behalf of children only if we were satisfied that the need no longer existed, or that no satisfactory method of carrying it out was at hand, or that the calls on governments in other directions made it impossible to finance such activities.

47. We believe, however, that international action on behalf of children is necessary and that the record of UNICEF shows that international action for the benefit of children can be organized satisfactorily. The continuously growing financial support for the Fund satisfies us that governments are both willing and able to finance this work. We have concluded, therefore, that international activity on behalf of children should continue. The only question remaining is whether we should carry out that work by the methods of the past few years or by other means. It seems to us that the better course is for the United Nations to continue its activities on behalf of children through the agency of UNICEF. We have several practical reasons for this conclusion.

48. Firstly, the constitutional structure of the Fund is satisfactory. It is governed by an executive board of representatives of governments which lays down the Fund's policies and actually approves each project. The Executive Board has a programme committee which considers the administrative budget. None of the other voluntarily financed programmes of the United Nations has such direct governmental control. Programmes are executed by the Executive Director and his regional directors. The administration of the Fund is unified, but it has not fallen into the error of over-centralization.

49. Moreover, the financial procedures of UNICEF are sound. The Board does not approve a project until it has the money in hand to carry out its agreement. As a consequence, it is able to withstand fluctuations—even large fluctuations—in income. Governmental contributions dropped from almost \$30 million in 1949 to a little less than \$8 million in 1950; but it was not necessary for the Fund to go back on a single agreement with governments.

50. These considerations may seem mundane, but their importance should not be underestimated. Much

of the success of the Fund can be attributed to good organization.

51. Secondly, we approve the Fund's methods of operation. Its activities have frequently been described as co-operative ventures. As is the case with any good system under which international assistance is extended, UNICEF does not try to do the work of other authorities. It provides assistance to programmes which have been initiated by national governments and which national governments carry out. The assistance takes the form usually of providing elements which the recipient government would either be unable to obtain itself or which it could obtain only with difficulty or delay.

52. To this co-operative concept UNICEF adds the "matching principle", a policy adopted by the Board by which countries requesting assistance make available certain benefits which otherwise would not have been provided. To illustrate, I refer to a project approved at the last session of the Board. In Bombay, the local authorities are endeavouring to improve the quality and quantity of milk distribution. They will be faced with the difficulty of spreading information on techniques of refrigeration, the cleaner handling of milk, and so on. In addition, they have had to undertake the construction of "milk collection roads" to permit the rapid transportation of milk from production to consumption centres. Part of the plan includes the construction of collection centres and a milk-drying plant. This is essentially a local venture, but UNICEF is providing equipment to assist in the construction of milk-drying plants and the collection centres. By way of "matching" this assistance, the City and State of Bombay have undertaken to provide, over a period of five years, milk for free distribution to mothers and children equivalent in value to one and one-half times the value of the assistance provided by UNICEF.

53. Thirdly, there are the achievements of the Fund.

54. Since 1950, when the Assembly last considered the future of UNICEF, most of the funds allocated by the Executive Board have been expended on assistance in long-range health programmes and nutritional projects for mothers and children in under-developed areas. It has continued on a more modest scale to provide assistance in times of emergency; and many governments have publicly recorded their gratitude for the timely assistance which the United Nations has provided through this agency.

55. The most spectacular achievements in the health field have been the mass health campaigns, particularly the campaigns against malaria, tuberculosis and yaws. Assistance has been extended in other fields, as for example, the control of typhus and trachoma.

56. For generations, malaria has been one of the major scourges in tropical and sub-tropical areas. In uncontrolled areas, infant mortality rates in the vicinity of 140 per 1,000 annually from malaria alone are by no means uncommon. In India alone, up to the present time, 1 million people have been dying each year, and the sufferers number 100 million per year.

57. In some areas where modern methods of control have been adopted there has been a virtual cessation of the transmission of the disease. This has been accompanied by increased productivity as loss of labour through illness has declined. In some cases, areas formerly incapable of cultivation because of malaria



have been brought under cultivation in consequence of the successful control of the disease. The World Health Organization and UNICEF have taken an active part in helping to spread knowledge of modern techniques of control.

58. In countries such as Thailand, pilot projects established with the assistance of UNICEF and WHO have made a significant contribution to plans for a nation-wide control of malaria.

59. In India today, a nation-wide plan has been evolved which in the course of a few years will, it is hoped, virtually eliminate malaria as a menace to public health. Areas containing a total population of over 200 million will be affected. Such a gigantic undertaking will be possible only with assistance from outside, the great bulk of which will come from the generous contributions of the United States Government, mainly through a bilateral arrangement with India.

60. Throughout the world, but perhaps particularly in Asia, there is a growing awareness of the possibilities of modern techniques of malaria control. It is not impossible that, in our lifetime, the disease which has tyrannized so many hundreds of millions of people for so many generations may be, for practical purposes, eliminated.

61. I do not wish to exaggerate UNICEF's contribution to these historic developments. Neither should its past achievements and its potential contribution be underestimated. While the dramatic story in India dwarfs what has been done elsewhere, in many other countries throughout the world UNICEF and WHO were pioneers in this field. Several countries are receiving more supplies from UNICEF than from any other international source. Pakistan is a case in point. The DDT made available by UNICEF will be sufficient to protect 19 million people in the year 1953 alone.

62. A second of the highly successful mass disease campaigns conducted by the Fund is the BCG campaign for vaccination against tuberculosis. A mass BCG campaign involves testing very large numbers of people and vaccinating those who are found to need it. The Fund is conducting BCG campaigns in several countries of Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. It is hoped that, by the end of 1953, 42 million children will have been tested and vaccinated in those cases where it is necessary. By the end of this year, 29 million people in Asia will have been tested since the campaigns began. In Asia, the Fund set itself a target of 16 million for 1953. Half-way through the year, more than 9 million children had been reached, and the Fund hopes to exceed its target by a wide margin. In India alone, 1 million children a month are being reached.

63. Probably the most dramatic of the health campaigns are those directed against yaws, a debilitating, and, in its extreme forms, a crippling disease, highly contagious, to which children are vulnerable. It persists into adult life, and its lesions affect capacity for work.

64. Recent advances in medical science have shown that this condition is peculiarly susceptible to treatment by penicillin, and it is now possible to cure the majority of cases with a single injection. With ever-improving techniques, it is hoped that the total cost of curing a case will soon be as low as \$1.00. The campaign in Haiti is the most spectacular; it has

progressed to a point where complete control of yaws is in sight.

65. Big campaigns are also being carried on in Indonesia and Thailand. It is estimated that, if international assistance can be continued long enough, the complete control of the disease could be achieved in Indonesia in ten years, and in Thailand in five years. Throughout the world, nearly 3 million people have been treated for yaws in UNICEF-assisted campaigns within the last four years. In Indonesia alone, current plans envisage that the number of treatments will rise to 1 million a year after about two years.

66. The bald recitation of statistics does not tell the whole story. The more energetic of the mass health campaigns being undertaken by under-developed countries are probably the largest ever envisaged. I am not able, offhand, to think of any parallel in the history of any other country for the projected Indian campaign against malaria. India has the largest anti-tuberculosis campaign in the world. The growing efforts to spread these campaigns regionally present a world-wide picture of struggle against disease which would have seemed unbelievable but a short time ago.

67. Under-developed countries encounter difficulties in carrying out their campaigns which would not be experienced in other countries. The confidence of the people must be won. Difficulties in bringing equipment to the point where it is needed have to be overcome. It is not simple to transport drugs whose effective life, in some instances, may be limited to a few days, to remote villages in humid tropical climates where means of communication are not easy. Sometimes the point of consumption may be on an island sometimes in the hills. Local personnel have to be taught to identify diseases and to use the equipment provided. Innovations such as the use of public-address systems in village market places have been introduced. Co-operation between the central, provincial and local governments often has to be achieved, budgetary provisions have to be made, and so on.

68. All this indicates that the programmes must be essentially national. The value of UNICEF assistance lies in this, that many of the things that have been achieved might not have been achieved for some years to come without its assistance. This is an achievement of which the United Nations has cause to be proud.

69. Normally, UNICEF follows up mass campaigns against communicable diseases by providing assistance in the development of public health services for the benefit of mothers and children. Most commonly this takes the form of providing supplies of drugs, equipment, diet supplements, and so on, to stimulate interest in the development of maternal and child health centres, the training of maternal and child health workers, and so on. The pattern is by no means universally followed because the needs of countries, and consequently the requests they make for assistance, vary so widely. This second phase of the Fund's activities is much less spectacular than those of which I have just been speaking, but their importance is to be gauged by the fact that countries are requesting more assistance in the form of these basic public health services than in any other form.

70. The Fund is also granting assistance in the field of child nutrition. Increasing emphasis is being given

to programmes to improve the availability, quality and distribution of children's diets. A high proportion of assistance granted has been in the form of supplies of equipment for the production of milk-drying or pasteurizing plants and the improvement of methods of distribution. In this field, the Fund works in close collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Local forms of diet are exploited. The milk-drying and pasteurizing plants have been adapted to the processing in some countries of goat's milk and buffalo milk, and, in some instances, the possibilities of processing sheep's milk are under consideration. Some interesting developments have recently emerged. At the last session of the Executive Board, approval was given for the provision of assistance to Indonesia, for example, for the construction of a plant to produce soya-bean milk.

71. I shall not attempt to traverse in any further detail the great variety of work which UNICEF undertakes. I have mentioned some of the programmes in order to illustrate the achievements of the Fund. The success of UNICEF and the fact that other United Nations agencies could not have done what the Fund has done without modification of their terms of reference have decided my delegation to support the proposals for the continuation of the Fund.

72. I should not like to pass from an account of the Fund's achievements without paying tribute to the generosity of the governments which have made this work possible. The Government of the United States is far ahead of all others in its contribution to the Fund's work. In all it has contributed almost \$100 million since the inception of the Fund.

73. A particularly gratifying feature is the financial support which the Fund has received from under-developed countries. In 1952, nearly 18 per cent of governmental contributions came from under-developed countries. More than 10 per cent came from Asia alone. No other voluntarily financed programme has such a high proportion of support from under-developed countries. It is remarkable to find that a country such as Thailand has been able to contribute almost \$1,500,000 in the last three years. The Dominican Republic has contributed \$50,000 each year since 1948. In comparison with the total funds contributed by some other countries, this contribution might not appear enormous, but it is nine times the amount the Dominican Republic would have been called upon to contribute if the United Nations scale of contributions were applied to the Children's Fund. Peru's contribution of \$100,000 in 1952 was five times as great as its obligation would have been on the same scale. This generous support from the recipient countries indicates the value which they attach to the Fund's work. The number of countries contributing is rising steadily each year, and the volume of governmental contributions is increasing this year. Incomplete figures for 1953 are already far ahead of those for 1952.

74. My Government has contributed to the Fund each year since its inception. We have not yet made a contribution for the year 1953, but I am authorized to state that provision has been included, in the budget estimates currently before Parliament, for a contribution to UNICEF for 1953.

75. May I, in conclusion, express my Government's appreciation of the valuable work of the Chairman of the Executive Board, Mr. Lindt of Switzerland, and the Executive Director, Mr. Pate.

76. The draft resolution which is before the Assembly requires little explanation. The preamble is self-explanatory, and the operative paragraphs will enable the Fund to continue with its present terms of reference—but with the omission of the limitations as to the period of the Fund's life which have appeared in previous resolutions affecting the Fund. The remaining paragraphs are designed to ensure the closest co-operation with other United Nations bodies. My delegation warmly commends this draft resolution to the consideration of the Assembly.

77. Mrs. LORD (United States of America): It is fitting that today, proclaimed as World Children's Day, we should gather here in the General Assembly and, all nations together, dedicate ourselves to the purpose of strengthening collective responsibility for the welfare of children.

78. When UNICEF came into being, there were untold millions of children all over the world in desperate and immediate need. There were 30 million such children in Europe alone. This was a challenge to all nations. Out of this crisis came the beginning of a large-scale demonstration that governments and peoples working together through an organization like the United Nations could collectively meet a problem which would be beyond solution if countries attempted to solve it alone.

79. I personally was a witness to those early days—for this tragic situation resulted, as far back as 1946, in the formation of a United States Committee dedicated to helping UNICEF meet, not only the European emergency, but similar ones throughout the world. As Chairman of the United States Committee for UNICEF, I have seen the programme in operation, first in the early days in Europe and later in Latin America. I have been in close touch with personal friends who have lately come back from Asia, the Middle East, the Far East, from Latin America and Africa.

80. In 1948, I visited a little schoolhouse in the Tyrol and saw a part of the 350,000 Austrian school children digesting their geography in the form of school lunch rations, making a memory game out of naming UNICEF's foods and the countries the foods came from. I can hear them reciting now "Meat from Australia, sugar from Cuba, cod-liver oil from Iceland, milk from the United States", etc., etc. They called it "learning geography through goodwill". In another country, I saw a group of orphans, seventy of them, with seventy smiles that had cost \$1.00; for with a \$1.00 bill all of these seventy children had received a glass of milk—orphans needing UNICEF to help make up for deficiencies caused by insufficiently cultivated lands and drought depleted herds. In the small town of Trebic in the Bohemian hills, I saw the beginning of that vast BCG campaign carried on with the World Health Organization. Children streamed towards the small schoolhouse where a Scandinavian team of a doctor and nurses waited to test and vaccinate the first of over 50 million children who have since been tested, and of over 22 million who have been vaccinated against TB. I saw children in Italy



where having no shoes was still the common reason for missing school.

81. I have talked to friends recently returned from Indonesia, who report to me that 10 million in that country have suffered from yaws—that “tropical child-crippler”—and that today UNICEF and WHO, working together under a programme of the Indonesian Government, are demonstrating to the world that for 15 cents worth of penicillin per child, a child can be cured.

82. On my last trip to South America, I could rejoice with others that the campaign against malaria, typhus and insect-borne diseases in 1953 would protect over 9 million.

83. Hand in hand with these campaigns and these pilot technical assistance programmes goes the unspectacular work of building a network of permanent services for children—infant health and welfare centres where mothers can go to get help in taking care of their children. I have seen some of these modest makeshift centres, situated in the back of a schoolroom or in a temple or church, serving their purpose until a better place is possible. The Fund, I found out, provides the scales, the thermometers, the midwifery kits and other equipment not available and, of course, as in all UNICEF programmes, the government or the local community shares the responsibility and provides the rest. I was told that these programmes were really causing minor public health and welfare revolutions in some countries, raising standards and practices; and that, because this work is not a give-away program, governments are spending more than they ever anticipated. Some health and welfare budgets, I am told, have jumped 300 per cent in three years.

84. During war years children take chaos for granted; they become used to violence; they witness tyranny; they do not play war—they are part of war. I saw many of these children immediately following the Second World War; young bodies so weakened, their legs and arms resembling sticks, their eyes deep sockets; little old men and little old women; lives that had been held in storage but, fortunately, not all had become dead storage.

85. The Fund, after dealing with these acute emergencies, is now dedicated to the long-term work of overcoming chronic problems in the under-developed areas. We in the United States welcome the recognition UNICEF has given to the urgent need of under-developed countries. We know that an unhealthy child can become economic deadweight, imposing a burden on family and community. Many, many people go through unproductive adult lives owing to ills acquired in childhood—diseases that a little money and a little “know-how” can wipe out. None of our hopes for our children and none of the high ideals for which we are struggling can be realized unless the citizens of tomorrow grow up strong in body and in spirit. Our efforts on behalf of the children of today will help ensure a solid basis for the fruition of the other great undertakings of the United Nations.

86. For these reasons, the United States delegation takes great pleasure in informing the General Assembly that the United States favours, as it did at the recent session of the Economic and Social Council, the continuation of UNICEF as recommended in the resolution adopted unanimously by the Council, with the understanding that that does not, of course,

imply a commitment of any kind as to future contributions to UNICEF by the United States. The United States delegation will vote in favour of the draft resolution [A/L.163] which is before the Assembly.

87. The United States has always contributed its proportionate share to this humanitarian programme, and at this time it gives us great pleasure to announce that within the next few days UNICEF will receive from the United States a cheque for \$9,814,333, representing our contribution for the calendar year 1953.

88. Mrs. TSALDARIS (Greece): My delegation has the honour to co-sponsor, with the delegations of Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, India, Iraq and the Philippines, the draft resolution [A/L.163] which is designed to prolong the existence of UNICEF. According to paragraph 6 of resolution 417 (V) of the General Assembly, the eighth session of the Assembly is to consider the future of UNICEF in the light of the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council. The draft resolution before us, the text of which was unanimously adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its last session [*resolution 495 (XVI)*], concerns one of the most commendable humanitarian activities of our Organization, UNICEF, by which millions of children all over the world have been helped and comforted, millions of innocent, destitute and unhappy children who have undergone all the trials and horrors of long years of war, of aggression, and of want.

89. The present century has given birth to an important evolution of the concept of international social action and of international social responsibility. In commenting on this evolution, the *Preliminary report on the World Social Situation*, issued by the Department of Social Affairs in 1952, records:

“... it has been suggested by a distinguished hisotrian that, in the broad sweep, the twentieth century will be chiefly remembered in future centuries not as an age of political conflicts or technical inventions, but as an age in which human society dared to think of the welfare of the whole human race as a practicable objective” [E/CN.5/267/Rev.1, p. 3].

90. I would ask to be permitted to say how much I appreciate the fact that the eighth session of the Assembly has directed a very important part of its work towards purely social and humanitarian questions. I wish to express the view, which I am sure corresponds to the view of all my fellow women representatives, that we women, for whom the election of a prominent representative of our sex to the highest office in this Assembly—the President will allow me to quote here the words of her inaugural address [432nd meeting]—is “a recognition of the part that women have played . . . in furthering the aims and the purposes of this great Organization”, have the special duty to devote our greatest efforts to the amelioration of the world’s social situation, on which, to a very important degree, the happiness, security and peace of the world depend.

91. The specialized agencies of the United Nations, it is true, are all dedicated to the reduction and the ultimate removal of the greatest obstacles to social progress. The World Health Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization and the United Nations

Educational, Social and Cultural Organization are also in the field combating the greatest foes of humanity, disease, malnutrition and ignorance. But UNICEF concentrates its efforts and its operations specially on the child, that most vulnerable and most innocent victim of the political, social and economic vicissitudes of the world.

92. By a happy coincidence, the discussion of UNICEF's future falls on World Children's Day, annually celebrated by the International Union for Child Welfare which, in 1924, after the First World War, promulgated the Declaration of Geneva, signed by men and women of all nations. Recognizing that mankind owes to the child the best that it has to give, they declared that, as their duty beyond an above all considerations of race, nationality or creed:

"The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually.

"The child that is hungry must be fed; the child that is sick must be cared for; the child that is backward must be helped; the delinquent child must be reclaimed; and the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured.

"The child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress.

"The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood and must be protected against every form of exploitation.

"The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow men."

93. The adoption of a declaration of the rights of the child has been discussed in the Social Commission of the United Nations. But although such a declaration has not been formulated or adopted as a resolution, all the principles which it would have recognized have been fully implemented by UNICEF. The Fund's precious help to the war-torn countries has developed from emergency relief and mass health and nutrition campaigns to long-range constructive programmes, and has been extended from Europe to the under-developed areas of other continents. This development is reflected, on the one hand, in paragraph 3 of the operative part of the draft resolution under consideration, recommending the change of the name "United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund" to "United Nations Children's Fund" and, on the other hand, in the fourth paragraph of the preamble, which reads as follows:

"Considering the urgent need for continuing the work of UNICEF, particularly in the under-developed regions of the world . . ."

94. It would be inadvisable, however, even harmful, to carry the interpretation of these premises to an extreme. Man is often no more than a helpless spectator of the acts of God, and, on such occasions, emergency aid to stricken children will always be needed. Such aid will then have to be extended for a certain time in order also to meet rehabilitation problems left in the wake of the disaster.

95. The needs of the under-developed regions of the world are particularly stressed in the draft resolution. This, however, does not imply any exclusion of the needs of other regions. I am confident that UNICEF will never have to think in terms of continents and

geographic areas, but rather in terms of the needs of the children regardless of the continent or region in which they live. The retention of the symbol "UNICEF", as provided for in the draft resolution, is an eloquent tribute to the work of that agency. In many parts of the world, UNICEF has become the symbol of the United Nations in action. People have been awakened to the realization that the United Nations is not only a forum for the discussion of political problems, but that it also gives due importance to the social problems of the world and especially to the welfare of the weaker members of the community and to the happiness of the new generation.

96. Furthermore, the draft resolution sets no limits on the continuance of UNICEF. Let us hope that social and economic progress, as well as lasting peace, will on some happy day prove that UNICEF operations will no longer be indispensable. Of any other cause of the cessation of its activities I dare not even think, as UNICEF thus far proved to be a powerful instrument for the expression of an international ethic of moral and material aid, which consists in assistance to the less fortunate and less advanced by the better provided and better endowed. The constant increase of the contributing countries bears ample witness to that. And I am firmly convinced that men will never completely lose the sense of their social duties and that, in their hearts, a spark of humanitarian feelings will always be preserved.

97. As the representative of a country whose children have been beneficiaries of UNICEF's inestimable services during the years of indescribable trials and distress of the Greek people and during a situation which the last publication of UNICEF, the *Compendium*, characterized as the most acute in all Europe, I feel it my duty to pay due tribute from this high rostrum to this agency of the United Nations, its Board, its administration and its executive organs, who perform this high humanitarian task in the field. My delegation joins in the unanimous recognition of the invaluable activities of UNICEF for the supplying of urgent necessities in the post-war period, and expresses its deepest gratitude for the last emergency allocations granted so rapidly for the relief of the Greek children so dreadfully stricken by the catastrophic earthquakes on the Ionian Islands. On the other hand, I should like to emphasize the importance of the various long-range programmes set in operation by the collaboration of UNICEF and WHO with the Greek Government.

98. It is the feeling of my delegation that a permanent improvement in maternal and child welfare will result from such close co-operation of governments with the agencies of the United Nations family, and that this co-operation should be hailed as the inauguration of the application of the programme of concerted practical action in the social field which is under study by the eighth session of the General Assembly.

99. In supporting the continuation of the activities of UNICEF, the Greek delegation not only pays tribute to the invaluable work achieved, but also wishes to give emphasis to article 25, paragraph 2, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which stipulates that "motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance", and to reaffirm its unshakeable faith in the principles of the United Nations regarding the promotion of social progress.

and better standards of life in peace and freedom, considering the child as the strongest link between the peoples of the world.

100. Mr. CHANDA (India): We are glad to be among the co-sponsors of the draft resolution [A/L.163] before us under which UNICEF is to be prolonged indefinitely with its existing terms of reference. It is three years since the General Assembly last reviewed the operations of the Fund. During that time, the emphasis of UNICEF's activities has shifted from Europe to the under-developed countries, and from emergency assistance to long-term programmes of child welfare. Because of this changed character of the Fund's work, it is fitting that the word "Emergency" should be discarded from its title. But it is also fitting that the abbreviation "UNICEF" should remain unaltered, since it is in this form that the Fund is known throughout the world with esteem and affection, as an example of the United Nations at work and as a concrete embodiment of the spirit of Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter.

101. The record of UNICEF over the past three years is one which all Members of the United Nations can regard with satisfaction. It has launched mass health campaigns against tuberculosis, yaws, malaria and other diseases which threaten mothers and children. All these campaigns have had significant results. In some, given an adequate expansion of the programme, the results may even prove to be decisive. Yaws may one day be eliminated from South-East Asia, and malaria, as a result of the programme which was pioneered by UNICEF and which being developed with United States assistance, may cease to be a public health menace in India. The Fund is also helping to build a penicillin factory in India and DDT factories in India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Egypt. These factories will help countries to continue the mass health campaigns which UNICEF has begun. The Fund's help in opening and equipping maternal and child welfare centres and in training personnel for these centres is no less effective, though it may be less dramatic than its work in mass health campaigns. The Fund has helped in establishing extensive milk conservation programmes. Finally, wherever disaster has struck, the Fund has come generously and immediately to the aid of those afflicted.

102. Under-developed countries have shown their appreciation of the Fund's work by making "matching" commitments to UNICEF programmes several times greater than the commitments made by UNICEF. Their own direct contributions to the Fund have also been increasing steadily in number and in size. However, the principal source of material support of UNICEF is and must remain the United States of America, and it is primarily due to its generosity that this demonstration of the United Nations in action has become the inspiring example that it is.

103. Despite the universal appreciation of UNICEF, the Fund's resources are severely limited in relation to its responsibilities. Its budget is only one-third of the size it was in 1950, when the emphasis was on relief aid to Europe, even though the problems it faces today are larger and more intractable. We hope, therefore, that all countries will continue and increase their contributions to UNICEF to enable it to carry out its basic tasks.

104. We propose no alteration in the terms of reference of the Fund. Its policies, in our opinion, are eminently satisfactory; its operations have been practical and effective. We should like to express our appreciation of the Fund's work and our confidence in its administration by permitting its mandate to continue unchanged. We are sure that the Assembly will share this sentiment and lend its full support to the draft resolution before it.

105. Mrs. HARMAN (Israel): The opening sentence in the Preamble of the Charter states that the peoples of the United Nations are "determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war". War is not limited to the battle of arms, the mass murder of millions of human beings by man-made weapons. Nor can peace be assured by the limitation of arms and an effective machinery for conciliation. Ultimate peace and happiness require a vigorous parallel effort to destroy the insidious forces that have decimated the strength and vitality of vast populations for centuries. Positive forces for peace must commence their work with each life born into the world. A child born to destitution and disease is the victim of aggression from the cradle.

106. Men, women and children are mown down by virulent attacks of chronic sickness; their ranks are debilitated by starvation and deprivation; injury and misery are inflicted by appalling natural disasters, by floods and earthquakes. The frontline casualties in this kind of war are little children doomed by their defencelessness and the inability of over-burdened governments to give them the necessary protection with the resources available to them. When 5 million people are killed annually by tuberculosis and millions more infected, it is the children who succumb first. When 300 million persons sicken each year with malaria and typhus, with 3 million of them dying, it is the little ones who show the least resistance. That ruthless sniper, malnutrition, wounds and weakens two-thirds of all the world's children.

107. The Fund was commenced in December 1946 primarily to assist children in the war-devastated countries of Europe. Its life was extended four years later to facilitate investment in long-range programmes of benefit to children, chiefly in the under-developed countries. It continued to be known as an emergency fund; no decision was taken to ensure its perpetuation as a permanent organ of the United Nations, indispensable to the peace, security and well-being of the peoples of the world.

108. If "emergency" is interpreted to mean a critical state of affairs calling for immediate action, then all UNICEF's work comes under this heading. The 1,800,000 people in Thailand crippled by yaws, two-thirds of whom are estimated to be women and children, constitute an emergency; 250,000 mothers and children, believed to be suffering from leprosy in Nigeria, are in urgent need of help; protection for women and children in Pakistan particularly susceptible to malaria, where 25 million people are afflicted annually and 600,000 die, brooks of no delay. The sense of urgency that an emergency connotes is ever present. But assistance afforded cannot be limited to first-aid it must be continuous and unrelenting.

109. That UNICEF, in the closest association with the specialized agencies, particularly the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organiza-



tion, has been instrumental in reducing the incidence of disease in children, in lowering the infant mortality rate and in improving nutrition, has already been amply demonstrated. A perusal of the UNICEF *Compendium* shows that programmes assisting over 60 million children in 69 countries are at present in operation.

110. But perhaps the major contribution has been that governments and peoples have had demonstrated to them the fact that century-old ills can be eradicated by the judicious use of modern, scientific skills and techniques, and that governments themselves, despite limited budgets and lack of trained personnel, have it within their power to provide competent services which gain in efficiency and scope with each succeeding year. The "matching clause", an essential part of all agreements between governments and UNICEF, has stimulated self-help, the initiation of permanent government services, utilizing local facilities and resources. Expenditure *per capita* is infinitesimal in relation to the results achieved, as other delegations have already pointed out.

111. The expectation of life has increased for millions of children who, were it not for UNICEF's initiative, would have been doomed to drag themselves around, listless and deformed, many never to reach maturity.

112. So much has been achieved, but little more than the periphery has been penetrated. In Asia, it is estimated that 59,000 new maternal and child welfare centres are needed; UNICEF has been instrumental in establishing 3,950. The DDT supplied by UNICEF will protect 600,000 in the tropical belt in Africa in 1953, an area inhabited by 130 million people where malaria is rife. A child population of 27 million still remains outside the scope of BCG vaccination schemes in Latin America. Only three modest projects for testing the effectiveness of mass campaigns for trachoma are at present in operation, covering 350,000 children, when tens of millions have their sight endangered in North Africa, the Eastern Mediterranean, Pakistan, India and China. How many children die annually from diseases contracted through contaminated water supplies and faulty sewerage? The Fund is only now contemplating entry into this vital field of work.

113. Those of us who have been privileged to participate in the work of the UNICEF Executive Board have been inspired by the vision and devoted industry of the Executive Director, Mr. Pate, and his loyal staff. The Board sessions have been highlighted by the vivid, poignant, verbal reports of the regional directors from the field. They have brought home to us, remote from the scene of action, stunned by statistics and overwhelmed by piles of documents, the immense humanity of the work, the meaning of changes wrought in the daily lives of children and mothers, given hope and health.

114. We would also pay a well-earned tribute to the many non-governmental organizations throughout the world which have stood firmly behind the Fund through all its vicissitudes.

115. If there is unanimity on anything in this world, it is surely in the concern and apprehension we feel for the safety and well-being of our children. If there is a faith and a sincerity in our deliberations common to us all, it arises from the fervent desire to spare our children pain and degradation. The cruel excesses of

nature are no less an aggression against our common humanity than the evils of unprovoked war, and must likewise be combated by our joint and organized efforts.

116. My delegation believes that a decision to continue and expand the work of UNICEF will represent an important step forward towards strengthening the foundations of permanent peace.

117. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines): It is appropriate that the General Assembly should consider the item on UNICEF today. On the initiative of the International Union for Child Welfare, 5 October has been designated World Children's Day. For the first time, a world-wide celebration is taking place uniting peoples of many lands and races in a common expression of solicitude for the welfare of the children of our time, a time of trouble and triumph for mankind, but also a time of hope and of striving for better tomorrows. Speaking of the urgent need for assistance for children in many countries, an eminent poet has written, "Tomorrow, but the child's name is today". The need in truth is for assistance today, and tomorrow and the day after tomorrow. That is why the General Assembly is now called upon to authorize the continuation of UNICEF on a permanent basis, that is, as long as there are sufficient contributions to keep it going.

118. The Philippines is honoured to be a co-sponsor of the draft resolution [A/L.163] providing for the continuation of UNICEF without the time-limits imposed by previous General Assembly resolutions. If this draft resolution is adopted, as we are confident it will be, UNICEF will live and function as long as the generosity of free men sustains it.

119. The co-sponsors propose no change, except a nominal one, in UNICEF's terms of reference. As it did in the past, UNICEF will subsist on the freely given contributions of men and nations everywhere. It is important that the Fund should remain on a voluntary basis and thus stand as a perpetual challenge to the conscience of the world. It is also important that the basic principles which govern UNICEF's operations should be maintained. These principles are, first, that aid must be given without discrimination based on race, creed, nationality or political belief; secondly, that UNICEF's contributions must be matched by the government or some voluntary agency within the recipient country; thirdly, that the Fund's aid must be used to make a permanent contribution to the welfare of large numbers of children through such projects as can have a mass impact and yet are within the means of the assisted countries to carry on themselves after the initial period. All these principles are reaffirmed in paragraph 2 of the operative part of the draft resolution which is now before the General Assembly.

120. It is significant to note that in accordance with the second principle already cited, UNICEF assistance has not been a mere give-away relief programme, but has been a genuine programme of help and self-help wherein, in many cases, recipient countries have matched many times over the amounts they have received from the Fund. Aid from UNICEF, therefore, has served to spur the health and child welfare programmes of many of the under-developed countries.

121. There was a time when the life of UNICEF hung in the balance. During the session of the UNICEF Executive Board last May, some of the major contributors reserved their position on the continuation

of the Fund. When the question came up in the Social Commission, it was proposed that the extension of the Fund's mandate should be limited to three years, after which the Assembly would decide whether or not UNICEF was deserving of a new lease on life. Happily, by the time the item had gone to the Economic and Social Council, those doubts and difficulties had been resolved. At the Council's sixteenth session, the vote for the continuation of UNICEF without any time limit was unanimous. We earnestly hope that the General Assembly will also vote unanimously to continue UNICEF on a permanent basis.

122. The special report of the UNICEF Executive Board [E/2409] issued last March and, more recently, the fourth volume of the UNICEF *Compendium* list more than a dozen compelling reasons for keeping UNICEF alive. Among these reasons are the following: that UNICEF is the only United Nations body working exclusively for child welfare; that it is efficiently and economically administered; that it strengthens the work of other United Nations agencies; that it achieves tremendous mass impact at relatively little cost; that it increases the capacity for economic and social progress in the recipient countries; that it stimulates self-help, serves as a catalyst for community development as a whole and promotes the larger purposes of the United Nations. Then, too, the task entrusted to UNICEF by the General Assembly is far from finished.

123. Mr. Pate, the Executive Director of UNICEF, who, with his able and dedicated staff, has done a wonderful job of administering the Fund, declared after a recent trip to Asia:

"What struck me most forcefully was this. Disease among children there today constitutes a greater emergency than among children in the devastated areas of Europe after the war."

The emergency needs are still immense. The long-term needs are just beginning to be met. How to keep the two in proper balance is often a difficult problem.

124. During the last session of the UNICEF Executive Board, allocations of milk to several countries in Asia and Latin America were questioned on the ground that the money might have been better spent in long-term projects, whereupon Mr. Kinney, the brilliant and energetic Regional Director for Asia, replied: "We must first keep the child alive. Only afterwards can we even think of providing for his future."

125. The Philippine delegation is satisfied with the judicious apportioning of UNICEF's efforts and resources between the so-called impact programmes, consisting mainly of mass health projects that yield quick and often spectacular results, and the long-term programmes for building up essential health services, training personnel and putting greater emphasis on providing for all aspects of the child's welfare. We welcome and warmly support the UNICEF administration's decision to go forward with projects reflecting this increased emphasis on child welfare.

126. The Philippines Government is trying to develop a comprehensive child welfare programme integrated with a comprehensive community development programme for the rural areas of the Philippines. My Government's interest in this undertaking is so great that the social welfare administrator, a member of the Cabinet, made a special trip to New York last spring to explore the possibilities of UNICEF assistance. We

look forward to seeing the projects envisaged in paragraph 15 of the Executive Director's general progress report [E/ICEF/236 and Corr.1] presented in the form of appropriate recommendations to an early session of the UNICEF Executive Board.

127. Asia today is the largest beneficiary of UNICEF assistance, which is distributed among 75 countries and territories. Of the total allocations for 1953, Europe will receive 5 per cent, the Eastern Mediterranean area, 15 per cent, Africa, 15 per cent, Latin America, 20 per cent and the Asian countries, 45 per cent. The Philippines shares, and is grateful for, the UNICEF assistance extended to Asia. We take this opportunity, on behalf of the Government and people of the Philippines, to thank the many countries, led by the United States, Australia and Canada, whose generous contributions have been the mainstay of the Fund's operations.

128. The Philippine contribution to UNICEF has been relatively modest—a total of \$300,000, \$50,000 to be used by UNICEF this year. Though modest, this contribution bespeaks the abiding interest of a people whose needs are many and urgent in relation to available resources.

129. The records of the United Nations are full of the achievements of UNICEF, the most notable of which have already been recounted here, but UNICEF's triumphs are not written in the statistics of the annual reports alone. They have been recorded in the tablets of the human heart. The Fund's helping hand reaches into the jungles of Africa, the mountains and *mesas* of Latin America and the humble villages in the teeming lands of Asia. Wherever it goes, UNICEF gives something more than milk or medicine or the "know-how" necessary to increase food and build a clinic; it brings also in tangible form the message of human brotherhood which is the heart and soul of our Charter. The barefoot farmer who is cured of yaws or malaria thanks to help given, at considerable sacrifice, by strangers from foreign lands, receives with the medicine a new sense of the dignity and worth of the human person. The sick or under-nourished child who is brought back to health with milk, sera or vitamin capsules from overseas learns that every human being, even the poorest and the humblest, is entitled to a better life and may hope to obtain it, with the help of the United Nations.

130. Through UNICEF, many of the seeds of truth and wisdom contained in the Charter are finding their way into the remotest corners of the earth, into the hearts and minds of people—where, ultimately, the United Nations must flourish or fall. The Fund is the handmaiden of peace, of understanding and co-operation among peoples, of human solidarity, of everything good, wise and noble associated with the Charter and the name of the United Nations. As such, it deserves to be continued on a permanent basis, as the joint draft resolution now under consideration by the General Assembly proposes.

131. The PRESIDENT: The list of speakers still contains the names of several representatives. We shall therefore resume consideration of this item tomorrow morning.

132. Although the Assembly is unable to conclude action on this item today, I believe it is significant that we have started to consider it on this date, which has been designated by the International Union for Child

Welfare as World Children's Day. This is particularly fitting because of the important contribution of non-governmental organizations to international work for children.

**Report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds: report of the Fifth Committee (A/2491) [concluded]**

[Agenda item 44]

**APPOINTMENT OF A NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR  
EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDS**

133. The PRESIDENT: In the resolution which the General Assembly adopted earlier this afternoon, and which provides for the continuation of the work of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds,

I, as President of the General Assembly, am requested to appoint a new committee of not more than ten members with the same terms of reference as those laid down in resolution 693 (VII) of 25 October 1952.

134. The Negotiating Committee appointed at the seventh session has done valuable work during the past year. I should therefore like to propose that the new committee should again consist of the representatives of Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Lebanon, Pakistan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

*It was so decided.*

135. The PRESIDENT: I hope that the Negotiating Committee will now be able again to take up its important task as speedily as possible, and I wish it every success.

*The meeting rose at 6 p.m.*