A special meeting of the United States Committee for the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund with representatives of non-governmental organizations was held in the 12th floor conference room at 2 Park Avenue, New York 16, New York at 2 o’clock on Monday, December 18, 1950. The following persons were present:

Miss Frances Kernohan
Miss Katharine Lenroot
Mr. Payson Loomis
Mrs. Oswald B. Lord
Mr. Leo Perlis
Miss Gertrude Ely
Miss Helen Hall
Dr. L. Emmet Holt
Mrs. Guido Pantaleoni, Jr.
Mr. Stuart Scheftel
Miss Anna Lord Strauss
Mrs. Howard Richardson
Mrs. Pauline W. Rivers
Mrs. Edward C. Carter
Mrs. Walter Stokes
Mrs. Warren A. Schenck
Mrs. J. Frucht
Miss Mary Frances Hall
Mrs. J. Dawson
Mrs. T.D. Walsor
Miss Luella Rechmeyer
Mrs. Eudora W. Conway

1. GENERAL SESSION

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Oswald B. Lord, Chairman, who expressed her pleasure at the large number of national organizations in attendance.

Mrs. Lord introduced Miss Frances Kernohan, Assistant Officer in Charge, United Nations Social Affairs, Department of State.

Miss Kernohan reviewed the discussion and action which occurred in the General Assembly’s Third Committee regarding the nature of the future role of UNICEF. She stated that this Government opposed the resolution adopted by the Committee by a vote of 43 in favor and 8 against on the following grounds:

- [Footnote: HERBERT W. LENMAN PAPERS]

[Signature]

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(a) That the Economic and Social Council resolution and preceding resolutions of the various United Nations bodies concerned had been arbitrarily disregarded by the Committee;

(b) that the United States definition of the relation of supplies to long-range assistance had been decisively rejected;

(c) that the integration of the staff of the Fund into the Secretariat of the United Nations had not been specifically covered;

(d) that the central administrative costs of the Fund in the regular budget of the United Nations had failed of acceptance; and

(e) that no adequate provision for coordination between the Fund and specialized agencies had been made.

When the Committee's resolution was considered in plenary session, the delegations of Canada, Netherlands, Bolivia and Ecuador introduced an amendment (paragraph 6 (b) of the attached copy of resolution) which placed greater emphasis on long range activities for children and which was adopted unanimously. The amended resolution was unanimously adopted, with the United States abstaining.

Our country felt that there were several reasons why the majority did not go along with the minority point of view. Some of the countries did not want to be tied down to a permanent program feeling that their contribution to UNICEF might be limited to the next few years; another group felt that the present program assured them of more supplies which at the present time they preferred to a more technical type of program, and several other reasons were implied.

Although the Executive Branch felt that the resolution adopted gave no assurance of a United Nations program which would be spearheading children's welfare projects, particularly in underdeveloped countries, on a permanent basis, it expects to ask the U.S. Congress for an appropriation to the Children's Fund in 1951, and subsequently for 1952 and 1953.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Payson Loomis outlined the present programs and plans of the Fund. Stressing that the Fund's work has been gradually changing from post-UNRRA relief to medical care and child and maternal health and welfare education, Mr. Loomis made the following outline of UNICEF's program.

(a) The European feeding programs will be completed by the end of this year except for Yugoslavia, Greece, and to a lesser degree, Southern Italy.

(b) In the Middle East, the Fund has programmed feeding and clothing assistance through the first six months of 1951 for a total of 440,000 Palestinian refugees and 30,000 residents of Gaza who are particularly destitute.

(c) The Latin America and Southeast Asia programs for combattling yaws, malaria, TB and other diseases afflicting children, for training personnel to strengthen basic maternal and child welfare services, and for education by demonstration feeding, have expanded rapidly during 1950.
The Fund's trend toward long-range assistance, he stated, are clearly reflected by some of the recent allocations and apportionments of the Executive Board such as:

(i) Korea - an additional allocation of $500,000 to replace original funds diverted for emergency use - blankets, cod liver oil and powdered milk.

(ii) Thailand - as a result of experience with the yaws campaign in Indonesia, $300,000 was apportioned for similar work in Thailand.

(iii) Latin America - $840,000 for training, demonstration feeding, maternal and child health and welfare education, and anti-TB and disease control programs. An apportionment of $135,000 was made to Chile to assist the Government in establishing a milk drying plant.

(iv) Southeast Asia countries - Due to the great need for antibiotics for preventing diseases and the scarcity of hard currency in these countries, the Executive Board approved an apportionment of $850,000 toward a $7 million antibiotics production plant in Bombay. WHO will provide technical aid at an estimated cost of $350,000.

(v) Central America - The Governments of these countries requested help for insect control and demonstration feeding programs. Fund has shipped dried milk to establish demonstration feeding centers for educating the public on importance of milk.

Mr. Loomis, in reply to a question regarding funds available, stated that the $3,000,000 allocated by the Board was sufficient to continue relief work in Greece until May 1951, in Yugoslavia until April 1951, in Italy and Palestine until July, 1951, to continue medical assistance and training programs in most Latin American and Southeast Asian countries until latter part of 1951, and to continue some special medical projects well into 1952. There remained an unallocated reserve of 1.8 million dollars and Area reserves of: Asia, 1.9 million; Latin America, 1.3 million; China, 7 million. He also reported that Mr. Pate, Executive Director of UNICEF, had estimated the Fund needed between fifteen and twenty million dollars in new resources during the next few months for planning purposes.

Mrs. Lord then introduced Miss Katharine Lonroot, U.S. Delegate to UNICEF. After expressing her appreciation of the Committee's help in serving in an advisory capacity and its work, particularly in the field of public relations, she outlined some of the problems confronted by the Programme Committee and the Executive Board of UNICEF.

(1) The progression from emergency relief to long-range programs involving proper coordinated planning in relationship to other agencies and NGO's.

(2) Determining to what extent, with limited resources available, the Board should go into capital investments, such as the antibiotics plant in India.
(3) How the Board can allocate wisely on the basis of relief needs and services and what general principles should govern allocations.

(4) To what extent international personnel should be used, recognizing the need for technical assistance and the difficulty of obtaining technicians with an understanding of the country and its problems.

(5) Need for coordination between UNICEF and other Agencies, especially as it concerns such projects as the Paris and India centers and the need for exchange of advice. (Advisory Committee with WHO working closely in Paris Center)

(6) Total problem of training, obtaining expert service, and developing clearer principles of the directions in which training personnel should go.

In response to a question regarding present membership of the Board, it was noted that the full membership of the new Board is as follows: the 18 governments of the states represented on the Social Commission (Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Byelorussia Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Ecuador, France, India, Israel, New Zealand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom, Union of Soviet Socialists Republics, United States and Yugoslavia); the 8 elected governments (Ceylon, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Switzerland, Thailand and Uruguay).

The Chairman then read the attached report of the Committee's activities since June 2, 1950. Following an expression of appreciation by the Chairman for the splendid support which the organizations have given to the program of the U.S. Committee, the first part of the meeting was adjourned.
Mrs. Oswald B. Lord, Chairman, called the Executive Session of the U.S. Committee to order.

With unanimous approval of the Committee, Mr. Leo Porlis and Mrs. Guido Pantaleoni, Jr. were designated to vote on behalf of those seventeen members of the U.S. Committee who had returned signed proxies prior to the meeting.

The Chairman pointed out that the resolution passed by the General Assembly continued the Fund on its present basis for another three years and therefore there is urgent need for appropriations from Congress. For that reason, she stated, it has been suggested that it is important at this time for the Committee to stand by at least until Congress appropriates another sum that will ensure the uninterrupted continuance of the Fund's program. She added that one of the reasons for this suggestion was that it seemed important for other countries and the people of this country to know that a volunteer group of U.S. citizens is backing the efforts of the Department of State and UNICEF to get an appropriation. Mrs. Lord then outlined the following points to be considered if the Committee voted to stand by:

- How should it be financed until such time as Congress decides whether or not to make an appropriation and another meeting is held to decide finally the future role of the Committee?

Until December 1, the Committee was financed from residual proceeds of the AO-UNAC campaign. Since then, the financing has been covered by contributions received from the public. During the next few months we can hope to finance the maintenance of an office with one stenographer and, perhaps, the consulting service of Mrs. Conway for a few hours per week for about $400 to $500. By sending out appeal letters, the Committee could hope for several thousand dollars of income per month. The activities that would necessarily be eliminated from the Committee's program would be: radio, television and magazine promotion, liaison with non-governmental organizations, promotion of special projects and scheduling of speaking engagements.

It is suggested that the Committee (1) turn over radio, press and magazine promotion, scheduling of speaking tours and work on special projects to UNICEF; (2) ask Women United for United Nations to continue, on an accelerated basis, to keep non-governmental organizations, most of which are within that body, informed regarding UNICEF.

It was duly moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the Committee serve as a stand-by Committee until such time as Congress took action re an appropriation for UNICEF.

It was duly moved, seconded and unanimously approved that no more than $1,000 per month be withheld from incoming contributions to finance the limited activities of the Committee until an appropriation was or was not made.

It was duly moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the Chairman be authorized to make whatever arrangements are necessary to continue whatever functions the Committee must relinquish.
It was duly moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the Committee should reconvene at such time as the action on Congressional appropriation is known for the purpose of assessing the future role of the Committee.

In response to questions raised regarding possible future of the Committee after appropriation has been made or turned down, it was voted to request the Chairman and the Officers of the Committee to meet with the United States Representative to UNICEF and officials of the Department of State to prepare, for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting, recommendations as to what the Committee should do from then on.

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the resignation of Mrs. Roy C. F. Weagley was regretfully accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.