

## UNITED NATIONS

## INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

## PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE 58TH MEETING OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEETING,  
HELD AT GENEVA ON 17 AUGUST, 1948.

1. The Programme Committee held a meeting on 17th August with the following members attending:

Chairman:	Mr. George Davidson	(Canada)
	Mr. E.J.R. Hayward	(Australia)
	Mr. T.Y. Wu	(China)
	Dr. P. Winkler	(Czechoslovakia)
	Mr. L. Bugnard	(France)
	Mr. A. Garcia	(Peru)
	Dr. A.R. Lindt	(Switzerland)
	Mr. V.I. Kobushko	(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
	Mr. J.A.C.C. Alexander	(United Kingdom)
	Mr. L.K. Hyde	(United States)

Dr. Rajchman, Chairman of the Executive Board, and Dr. Gutka, Dr. Forrest and Mr. Moore (all of W.H.O.), also attended.

This meeting was convened to consider certain recommendations of the Administration with regard to the anti-syphilis programme for Poland, the possibility of expediting the programme for Germany, and the approval of a fellowship programme for countries in South-East Asia, India and Pakistan.

Anti-syphilis Program for Poland

2. The Committee had before it copies of correspondence between the Administration and representatives of the World Health Organization (See Annex 1). It was recalled that at its last meeting the Executive Board had approved an allocation of two million dollars for anti-syphilis campaigns, without allocations by countries. Plans for such campaigns had been

submitted to the Joint Health Committee for consideration which had authorized the Chairman of the Joint Health Committee, the Director General of W.H.O. and the Executive Director of I.C.E.F. to approve the programme for Poland. Proposals by other countries for anti-syphilis programmes were still under consideration, but pending receipt of further information the Joint Health Committee was not in a position as yet to make recommendations on such other programme. It was noted that the WHO/IC Expert Committee on Venereal Diseases had approved the Polish plan and that the Polish government would furnish from its own resources three times the amount contributed by the Fund in its overall campaign to eradicate syphilis within its borders, which would be of value to other countries as a demonstration.

3. The Committee considered proposals for an equitable distribution of the two million dollars among countries but concluded that these proposals should be postponed until the Joint Health Committee is in a position to make recommendations on the applications of other governments for assistance in this field.

4. Meanwhile it was satisfied that it could appropriately recommend that the programme for Poland, in the amount of 384,220 dollars, be approved by the Executive Board.

#### Cod Liver Oil for Germany

5. The Committee decided to postpone any action at this time in regard to the recommendation of the Administration to send to Germany certain stocks of cod liver oil in excess of normal allocations to other countries until the special mission was able to submit, as determined by the Executive Board (see Document E/901), a detailed plan of operations. This course was particularly felt to be advisable since the recommendation of the Administration would have committed \$330,000 or one third of the entire sum allocated by the Board for Germany. The Committee indicated its willingness to meet early in October to consider the report of the Special Mission to Germany, if then available.

#### Fellowships for South-East Asia, India and Pakistan.

6. The Committee also had before it a recommendation from the Administration with regard to fellowships in South-East Asia, India and Pakistan (see Annex 2). In order that operations in these areas might commence without undue delay, the Committee recommended approval of the scholarships worked out in conjunction with the World Health Organization, on the basis of Dr. Farran's report (see E/ICRF/72).

The amounts for each country are set forth below:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
Singapore	18,500
Malaya	3,500
Indonesia (Dutch)	9,000
Indonesia (Republic)	24,000
Siam	23,000
India	60,000
Pakistan	16,000
Philippine Islands	60,000
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	\$ 214,000
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The Committee pointed out that there is no necessary relationship between the above amounts and overall allocations for these areas which have been made by the Executive Board and that additional fellowships for the area may be approved after reports from the UNICEF Mission have been submitted. The Soviet delegate considered that such fellowships should be made available for Viet-Nam. It was explained that the fellowships at present scheduled were those recommended by Dr. Parran. The delegate of France indicated the willingness of his government to make recommendations without regard to political consideration.

Procedure for Approval by Executive Board

7. The Committee decided that this report should be circulated to the members of the Executive Board for their approval or otherwise in writing to the Executive Director. This procedure is suggested to avoid another meeting, unless it appears from the responses that a meeting of the Board is desirable.

SECRET 1

Original: English  
13 August 1948

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

29 July 1948

Dear Mr. Pate,

You will recall that the Joint Committee on Health Policy UNICEF/WHO, decided at its meetings on 23 and 24 July 1948 that programmes and projects to combat syphilis in expectant mothers and children up to 18 years of age should be studied as soon as possible by the WHO Expert Committee on Venereal Diseases in accordance with the details laid down in document JC/UNICEF/WHO/3.

I am informed that so far the following countries have applied to UNICEF for assistance:

- (a) Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia
- (b) Finland, Austria, Czechoslovakia
- (c) Italy, Albania, Roumania, Greece

and that a total of two million dollars was recently allocated by the Executive Board of UNICEF for such anti-syphilis programmes as may be recommended by the W.H.O. Expert Committee on Venereal Diseases.

In view of the above it would be desirable that the W.H.O. Expert Committee should meet as soon as possible. Certain additional information is required, however, with regards to the request of some Countries under (b) and (c) above, before the Committee could consider the requests and a meeting is scheduled tentatively to take place 15-19 October 1948, in Paris, enabling the W.H.O. Secretariat to receive further information from those countries before that time. We would also appreciate receiving any such further information on the projects which UNICEF might receive directly.

With regards to the request for assistance by Poland, the situation is somewhat different. The Polish anti-syphilis plan was considered by the W.H.O. Expert Committee on Venereal Diseases at its meeting 12 - 15th January 1948, when the Committee expressed its approval of the plan, indicating that the principles therein should serve as an effective means of combatting a similar syphilis situation in other countries. Certain phases of the plan have subsequently been discussed in detail in communications between the WHO Secretariat and the UNICEF European Headquarters in Paris, the ad hoc VD consultant for UNICEF and the Polish Ministry of Health, VD Division. In view of this situation, and the authority delegated by the Joint UNICEF/WHO Committee to the Chairman, the Executive Director of UNICEF and the Director-General of WHO, and the decision of the Joint Committee at its meeting on 24 July 1948, action should be taken forthwith in the case of Poland.

Mr. Maurice Pate,  
Executive Director, UNICEF,  
43 Avenue du Marechal Foyelle,  
PARIS, 16

The tentative estimates of the cost of the Polish programme for combatting syphilis in pregnant mothers and children up to 18 years of age are as follows:

1.	214,635 mega units penicillin in beeswax oil (POB) - 3,000,000 units each...	\$357,720
2.	Laboratory equipment for stationary and mobile units	..... \$ 25,000
3.	Visiting WHO experts for follow-up of programme in 1949	..... \$ 1,500
		<u>\$384,220</u>

With regard to the cost of penicillin, this is based on an average price of \$5.00 per three million unit vial and on the amounts of penicillin required, as laid down in document E/ICEF/W.19 dated 15 July 1948 (Restricted). The cost of laboratory equipment for stationary and mobile units is based on the estimate given by the Polish Ministry of Health, Division of VD Control. The cost for visiting WHO experts for follow-up of programme is based on two visits in 1949 lasting 3-4 weeks. In the case of Poland, where the syphilis plan is carried out by a nation-wide administrative public health network, there would appear to be no further need for a follow-up and control of the programme other than has been indicated.

Yours sincerely,

Brock Chisholm, M.D.,  
Director-General.

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Recommendations of Administration with regard to Fellowships in the Far East.

The Programme Committee will recall that utilization of the allocations for the Far East were subject to the working out of detailed plans of operations. Pending the final development of these plans, the Administration recommends that the fellowships set forth below be approved by the Committee and the amounts stated for each country be chargeable to its allocation:

<u>Country</u>	<u>No. of Fellows</u>	<u>Type of Fellowship.</u>	<u>\$</u>
Singapore	7	1 doctor 1 nurse for BCG and 5 nurses and welfare workers for child health	18,500
Malaya	2	doctors for BCG training	3,500
Indonesia (Dutch)	2 - 3	dieticians	9,000
Indonesia (Republic)	6	doctors, nurses and midwives	24,000
Siam	14	2 doctors in maternity and child welfare 1 nutrition & dietetics 1 nurse for public health 1 social worker for child welfare 2 for malaria for whom clearance has already been obtained so that they can be sent immediately to Calcutta	23,000
India	15	for child welfare, rehabilitation on Polio and TB with 1 year duration	60,000
Pakistan	Assumed that at least 5 could be sent abroad with the money set aside		16,000
Philippine Islands	10	public health nurses, nutritionists, dietetics child psychologists & orthopaedic surgeons	60,000

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\$214,000

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