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Table of Contents

Paragraph Numbers

BASIC MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES..... 1 - 36

A. Maternal and Child Health.....1 - 31

Aden	1 - 2
Egypt	3 - 4
Ethiopia	5 - 6
Iran	7 - 8
Iraq	9 - 10
Israel	11 - 14
Jordan	15 - 16
Libya	17 - 20
Sudan	21 - 23
Syria	24 - 26
Turkey	27 - 31

In this report, the Executive Director presents information on the progress of UNICEF-aided programmes in Eastern Mediterranean, through the end of 1957. This report should be read in conjunction with document E/ICEF/356/Add.3 which is a discussion of progress for the region as a whole during the same period. The detailed information programme by programme will be of particular interest to the Programme Committee of the Executive Board in its consideration of current recommendations for UNICEF assistance to Eastern Mediterranean.

(52 p.)

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Table of Contents

BASIC MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES (continued)

B. <u>Environmental Sanitation</u> .....	32
Ethiopia	32
C. <u>Rehabilitation of Handicapped Children</u> .....	33 - 35
Israel	33
Lebanon	34 - 35
D. <u>Premature Infant Care</u> .....	36
Egypt	36
<u>DISEASE CONTROL</u> .....	37 - 78
A. <u>Malaria Programmes</u> .....	37 - 54
British Somaliland	37
Egypt	38 - 40
Ethiopia	41
Iran	42
Iraq	43
Jordan	44 - 45
Lebanon	46 - 48
Somaliland under British Administration	49 - 51
Sudan	52
Syria	53
Turkey	54

/...

Paragraph NumbersDISEASE CONTROL (continued)

B.	<u>Tuberculosis Control Programmes</u> .....	55 - 61
	Iran	55
	Jordan	56
	Libya	57
	Sudan	58
	Turkey	59 - 61
C.	<u>Treponemal Diseases</u> .....	62 - 68
	Ethiopia (VD)	62 - 64
	Iran (Bejel/Syphilis)	65
	Syria (Bejel/Syphilis)	66 - 68
D.	<u>Trachoma</u> .....	69 - 74
	Egypt	69 - 71
	Ethiopia	72 - 73
	Turkey	74
E.	<u>Mycosis</u> .....	75 - 76
	Syria	75 - 76
F.	<u>Leprosy</u> .....	77 - 78
	Ethiopia	77 - 78

/...

Table of Contents

<u>NUTRITION</u> .....	79	-	102
A. <u>Food Conservation</u> .....	79	-	89
Egypt	79	-	80
Iran	81		
Iraq	82		
Israel	83	-	84
Syria	85		
Turkey	86	-	89
B. <u>Child Feeding</u> .....	90	-	102
Ethiopia	90	-	91
Iran	92		
Iraq	93		
Jordan	94		
Libya	95	-	97
Somaliland under Italian Administration	98		
Syria	99	-	101
Turkey	102		
<u>EMERGENCY AID</u> .....	103	-	107
Egypt	103	-	105
Jordan	106	-	107

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BASIC MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

A. Maternal and Child Health

ADEN

Total previous allocations: \$39,300  
(includes 72,036 lb. powdered skim milk)  
First: September 1956  
Latest: March 1957

1. In the Protectorate, new construction work on the training centres in the west (Makhzan) and the east (Mukalla) has been completed, and teaching and training equipment supplied by the Fund was received during the latter part of the year. The Government has recruited two additional medical officers and a nurse/midwife tutor to make up the teaching staff, and in October training of thirty male and female MCW auxiliaries was started. The Protectorate Health Service has continued to build up the network of health centres in the twenty-three States of the territory. The target is to bring into operation sixty-one such centres, and by the end of 1957 thirty-six had been fully equipped, while an additional twenty-four had been constructed and partially equipped. UNICEF equipment was provided in June to three larger centres, in Zingibar, Lahej and Beihan in the Western Protectorate, where a doctor is in attendance, and two sets of equipment were installed in similar centres in the Eastern Protectorate during October. An additional fifteen sets for smaller centres have also been provided by the Fund, and will be issued to health centres as the system of supervision of their work is improved. The Health Service has also started developing school health work, particularly in the west. United States surplus skim milk, which the Fund had shipped to the territory, went into distribution through three schools to reach both school children and younger age groups, and by the end of the year milk distribution had started in twenty health units.
2. A similar programme for training of MCW personnel (nurses and midwives) is being developed in the Colony, where a training school is being established. In June new premises for this school, including teaching and demonstration

rooms, had been completed and living accommodation for the trainees was under construction, to be ready by early 1958. In the meantime, training was given in temporary quarters to twenty-eight trainees, of whom twelve had been recruited in 1956 and the rest this year. Transport and part of the training equipment provided by the Fund arrived in the Colony in December, and the rest should arrive to be installed and used during the first months of 1958.

EGYPT

Total previous allocations: \$371,400  
(includes 691,390 lb. powdered skim milk)  
First: March 1953  
Latest: September 1957

3. In the course of 1957, the Government completed and put into operation a further 100 "collective rural centres". These are designed to render assistance in all the basic fields of social welfare including maternal and child services. This brought the total number of operating MCW centres to 894, for all of which the Fund has made available either some technical equipment or expendable supplies, such as vitamins, drugs and soap. This total number comprised 190 rural and 85 urban health centres under the supervision of the Ministry of Health; 320 centres operated by the Ministry of Social Welfare; 80 centres providing MCW services and run by voluntary organizations; 19 health centres associated with the Qalyub Health Demonstration and Training Area; and 200 collective rural centres. The latter are now all staffed on the health side with a medical officer, a nurse/midwife (hakima), a sanitary inspector, a laboratory assistant, and assistant nurse, two assistant midwives and five medical orderlies. The training programme for the various categories of personnel is progressing well, and new schools have been opened for nurses and assistant midwives. The Government intends to increase the facilities for training of assistant midwives, who are to be posted in rural areas to take up, under the supervision of the collective centres, work which, so far, has been done by traditional birth attendants. Furthermore, WHO is expected in 1958 to make

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available to Egypt a nursing adviser to help upgrade nursing training and to establish nursing services as an integral part of the rural health services.

4. In addition to the 894 MCW centres now in operation, construction of another 50 collective rural centres was finished at the end of 1957 and should be adequately staffed and equipped to start work in the early part of 1958. The Board in September 1957 approved the provision of MCW equipment, expendable supplies and midwifery kits for these centres, which will now receive this equipment. The Government, for the present time, has had to abandon further plans to establish additional collective rural centres because of lack of funds. It was originally planned that 200 such centres were to be put up over the next two years.

ETHIOPIA

Total previous allocations: \$103,800  
(includes 76,018 lb. powdered skim milk)  
First: March 1954  
Latest: April 1957

5. At the Public Health College and Training Centre in Gondar, the first forty-seven trainees to complete courses at this training centre graduated on 27 August at a ceremony which was attended by five cabinet ministers and representatives of the three co-operating agencies (US/ICA, WHO and UNICEF). These twenty health officers, fifteen community nurses and twelve sanitarians represent the first of a new type of auxiliary public health personnel in Ethiopia. Following graduation, the group should, according to plan, have undertaken a further twelve months of practical work in six training rural health centres under direct and close supervision of the Gondar College. At the time this should have started, in October, the centres were not ready due to inadequate budget provisions, and the graduates were instead assigned to various public health activities, such as the projects for malaria control, venereal disease control, leprosy control and environmental sanitation. This has proved to be of such great value that the Government decided that trainees in the future would also be posted to take part in disease control campaigns for short periods.

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Meanwhile, the budgetary difficulties were overcome toward the end of the year and the completion of three rural training centres is expected in February 1958. The other three will be made ready later in the year. All will receive technical equipment which the Fund will have shipped to the country.

6. In October sixty new trainees were recruited, and at the end of 1957 a total of 121 trainees were enrolled in the three courses of the Gondar College. Of these, sixty-eight follow the three-year health officers' course, twenty-seven the nurses' course and twenty-six the one-year basic course for sanitarians. In addition to this training scheme, the Government is now establishing public health centres to which graduates from Gondar will gradually be assigned. At the end of 1957 active consideration was given to a ten-year plan which in its first stage foresees the establishment of a health centre in each of the five provinces, starting in 1958/1959. A recommendation for aid to maternal and child welfare in the federated state of Eritrea is before the present session of the Board (E/ICEF/L.1180).

IRAN

Total previous allocations: \$197,700  
(includes 4,314,228 lb. powdered skim milk  
First: October 1952  
Latest: March 1955

7. The programme for training of various categories of MCW staff was further strengthened when a health visitors' (behyar) school in Teheran started in early 1957. Altogether, 117 persons of different categories were under training during the year in UNICEF-assisted projects, in addition to a further number of auxiliaries receiving in-service training in health centres in seven ostans (provinces). Of this number, 67 were being trained as health visitors in Teheran, Shiraz and Isfahan. The school for rural midwives in Shiraz continued with three classes of 12 trainees each, while in the Teheran Midwifery Institute fourteen nurses entered a one-year course of post-graduate training. The Institute during the year graduated nine midwives who had completed this course. The

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Government has further had to delay the opening of the school for rural midwives in Mashhad, and now hopes to start courses there in 1958. In Teheran, further refresher courses were given to MCW staff through the demonstration centre and through an MCW centre operated by the Red Lion and Sun Society.

8. By the end of 1957, a total of 41 new semi-rural and rural MCW centres were in operation throughout the country, and the Government plans to equip a further sixteen during the early part of 1958; these centres are integrated with the national public health system. Distribution of milk and other diet supplements was made during the year through 156 MCW centres and rural health centres. Skim milk powder was distributed to 35,000 beneficiaries, whole milk and soap to 10,000 and fish liver oil capsules to 40,000. The MCW Department of the Ministry of Health, with the assistance of a WHO maternal and child health adviser seconded to the programme, has under study a national plan for the further expansion of MCW services, with emphasis on the training of more staff.

IRAQ

Total previous allocations: \$129,700  
(includes 108,054 lb. powdered skim milk)  
First: March 1953  
Latest: September 1954

9. In its training aspects as well as in the development of new MCW centres the progress of this programme during 1957 has been below expectations. In the main training centre in Baghdad recruitment of trainees for the course for community health visitors lagged for several months and the Government subsequently decided to relax its educational requirements so that recruits with one year less schooling than formerly could be admitted. By March, fourteen trainees had been assembled. Thirteen are continuing the course. A similar training school has been planned for Mosul in northern Iraq, where construction of the training centre has been in progress during the year. Upon its completion in October, the Government took the building for temporary use in training nurses. This building and a students' hostel for MCW training should be released in 1958,

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when recruitment of trainees is to take place. From the third main centre of training, operated with US/ICA assistance in Basra, similar recruitment difficulties are reported. Three community health visitor trainees from the Basra school joined the Baghdad course during the year. Meanwhile, trainees graduated from the two previous courses in Baghdad have been assigned to strengthen existing and new MCW centres throughout the country. During 1957, eight new MCW centres were put into operation and received supplies and equipment. During the year, dried milk and vitamin A and D capsules were distributed through 21 centres, including centres operated by the Ministry of Social Affairs.

10. Seen against the initial plan of operations for the development of MCW services in Iraq, concluded in 1954, the rate of expansion has been disappointing. A number of factors have contributed to this; administrative difficulties and certain shortcomings in advance planning are two major causes. The Government is at present planning the extension of new centres at a reduced rate, and the plan for 1958 foresees only twelve new centres, partly because the rate of training has not reached the planned level. It is hoped that in the course of 1958 a major evaluation of this programme can be undertaken in co-operation with WHO, which, since early 1957, has reduced its team in the project to a medical officer and an Arabic-speaking nurse educator.

ISRAEL

Total previous allocations: \$206,000  
First: November 1951  
Latest: March 1955

11. UNICEF first gave assistance to the expanding maternal and child health programme in November 1951, and has, since that time, given soap, vitamin A and D capsules and other expendable supplies to 414 MCW centres; 44 of these also received basic equipment or midwifery kits.

12. During 1957, 31 new centres were initiated, among which 6 were in predominantly Arab population areas. Five were curative as well as preventive. Among other services provided by all centres, the Government reports that 46,000

children were examined and 2,412 treated for trachoma.

13. The training of public health nurses continued, 40 practical nurses and 19 fully qualified nurses having received training during the year.

14. The three premature care units have been established and are operating to capacity. A follow-up service has now been established with help from the public health nursing service.

JORDAN

Previous allocation: \$57,600  
(includes 96,010 lb. powdered skim milk)  
October 1952

15. In the Amman training centre, twelve qualified nurses who along with others started training in midwifery and mothercraft in August 1956, completed this course in mid-May 1957 and were assigned to the Demonstration and Training Centre, the Maternity Hospital of Amman and other health institutions. Some of these graduates will work in the MCW centres to be opened in East Jordan in 1958. Initially, forty-one trainees started in this course. In addition to the twelve who graduated in August, another seven were given a shorter period of training and returned to the tuberculosis services at the beginning of the year. Four interrupted their studies for marriage and other reasons, while the remaining eighteen are continuing the course and are to graduate in March 1958. A group of sixteen new trainees were admitted to this course in September. Already qualified nurses are included in these training activities because of the need, cited in E/ICEF/R.360, to enhance the qualifications of existing staff. In the development of MCW centres in East Jordan, of which eleven have been planned and are to be given technical equipment provided by UNICEF some progress is reported during 1957. Thus two such centres, in Mafrag and Fuheis, were set up early in the year with the aid of funds from the United States Operations Mission in Jordan (USOM/J), and a third was ready in Salt during November 1957. The expanded aid foreseen from USOM/J for community health centres now makes it

possible to plan for the opening of the remaining eight centres in this part of the country during 1958. UNICEF equipment for these centres has arrived in the country and is being stored pending completion of the MCW units. Meanwhile the WHO team assigned to the country carried out an appraisal of the work in the ten existing MCW centres in West Jordan and came to the conclusion that it would be of advantage to provide a refresher course for the medical officers in charge of these centres. Such a course is planned for early 1958.

16. The Maternity Hospital in Amman, which at the end of 1956 was transferred to a better location and which serves as a practical training ground for the students at the midwifery and mothercraft course, was further expanded by taking into use an additional wing in the building. The capacity was thus increased from forty to sixty-four beds. A request for supplementary assistance by UNICEF for this hospital as well as for the training and demonstration centre is now being discussed with the Government. During 1957, a total of 11,030 visits were made to the Amman Demonstration Centre. Of these, 6,400 were children while the remainder were mothers who came for pre- or post-natal care. During the same period the staff of the centre made 2,565 home visits, 195 for deliveries, 1,510 for children and 860 for pre- and post-natal cases.

LIBYA

Total previous allocations: \$83,300  
(includes 112,758 lb. powdered skim milk)  
First: May 1951  
Latest: March 1954

17. During the year the Government put into operation four new rural MCW centres in Tripolitania which made it possible to assign to these centres eight trained community midwives, who at the end of 1956, graduated from the Training Centre in Suk el-Jiuma. Remodelling of the Suk el-Jiuma Centre was completed in July and a new annex was also finished by the end of the year. A second WHO nurse/midwife was assigned to this Training and Demonstration Centre in mid-1957. Meanwhile, twelve trainees took up their course on 1 September. They had been

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selected already at the end of the previous year, but because of delays in getting a students' hostel ready the commencement of the course was delayed.

18. The adjacent nursing school in Tripoli was inaugurated in July and two nursing students and eleven assistant nursing students were admitted to the school in August to start training in the autumn. Earlier in the year UNICEF equipment for the maternity and paediatric wards of the Tripoli Hospital arrived and was installed.

19. After a series of delays, the second MCW training and demonstration centre in Benghazi was ready by the middle of 1957. Supplies and equipment provided by the Fund were installed in the centre and the first training course for twelve community midwives started in August. Three WHO advisers are now attached to this centre. In the same city a school for health assistants and sanitarians was opened in March 1957. A three-man WHO team was also appointed to supervise the school, aided by a Government-designated Egyptian medical officer. UNICEF teaching and training equipment was made available to this school. On 1 April the first three-year course for twenty-seven health assistants and the first one-year course for twenty-three sanitarians commenced.

20. A joint assessment is to be undertaken in order to establish more clearly the future long-term plans of Libya for the expansion of MCW services throughout the country and in this connexion to determine the measures whereby the various training establishments can co-ordinate their activities within the national plan. A staff member of the WHO Regional Office went to Libya for this purpose at the end of 1957. The Government intends to open up a series of MCW centres for which further international assistance would be requested.

SUDAN

Previous allocation: \$30,500  
(includes 36,018 lb. powdered skim milk)  
September 1955

21. UNICEF expendable supplies are being distributed through twenty-five modern MCW centres recently constructed in the Sudan to augment the several hundred older centres. The teaching and training equipment which was provided by UNICEF for the five Government training institutions arrived and was distributed to the different training centres; the Medical Assistants' School and the Nurses' School in Omdurman, the Nursing and Midwifery Training Centre in Wad Medani, the School of Hygiene in Khartoum and the Khartoum Nursing College.

22. The first class of six students enrolled in Khartoum Nursing College in September 1956 and completed the first year of their studies in 1957. UNICEF contributed to the College's medical library. Considerable difficulty is being experienced in recruiting the right type of girl for the second course, and the date of enrolment has been postponed until late September in the hope that additional candidates will be found.

23. The review which was to be undertaken jointly by the Government and WHO in the latter part of 1956, to determine what further MCH facilities might be developed in the country, was postponed, but it has been planned to take place during the first quarter of 1958.

SYRIA

Total previous allocations: \$159,800  
(includes 989,206 lb. powdered skim milk)  
First: May 1951  
Latest: September 1957

24. At the MCW training and demonstration centre in Damascus, sixty-nine health visitors completed a one-year course in August. Of these, forty-nine were assigned to the Government tuberculosis control service, while the remaining twenty were posted to MCW centres. The graduation of this new staff made it possible to re-open the four main provincial MCW centres (in the Midan district

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of Damascus, in Deir-el-Zor, in Suweida and in Hassetché in the Jazirah Province) which in 1956 were closed for lack of trained personnel. This brought the number of operating main MCW centres in the country up to twelve, including the Damascus training centre. Three-months midwifery courses are planned to start in early 1958 to benefit these health visitors already graduated, and future graduates from the Damascus centre. A new one-year course for twenty-two auxiliaries is scheduled to start at the MCW training and demonstration centre in February 1958.

25. In addition to the MCW centres now operated by the Government, two voluntary societies ("Goutte de Lait" in Damascus, and the Children's Welfare Society in Homs) have each an MCW centre which receive expendable supplies from UNICEF. Their work is being aligned with that of the national programme, and staff training is being co-ordinated. Four to five staff for the centre of the Damascus Society will take part in the 1958 course for auxiliaries, while in Homs a system of in-service training at the Government MCW centre in that city will be continued (two workers from the voluntary society were thus trained in 1957).

26. In order to implement a plan for expansion of MCW services, for which the Board approved aid last September (E/ICEF/L.1107), the Government has included in the 1958 budget funds to establish six village MCW centres in the Der'a and Latakia provinces. Following a reorganization of the service these centres are planned to be opened in mid-1958. The ultimate goal of the Government is to establish, in the period 1958-1960, an MCW unit in each of the nine provinces (mohafazats). Such a unit would comprise at least one main provincial centre, assisted by an adjoining Government hospital, and three village sub-centres. Meanwhile, the Government is also, with the assistance of WHO, embarking on a rural health pilot project in the Douma borough (qada) of the Damascus province. A preliminary survey is to take place in 1958 and a close relationship is to be established between this pilot undertaking and the national MCW programme.

TURKEY

Total previous allocations: \$374,400  
(includes 1,814,952 lb. powdered skim milk)  
First: March 1953  
Latest: April 1957

27. The original aims of the programme, as set forth in E/ICEF/L.426, having been for the most part attained, efforts to improve Turkish maternal and child welfare were strengthened and broadened to achieve the following goals:

- a) The creation of a rural MCW system staffed by nurses, auxiliary midwives and sanitarians.
- b) The phased build-up over a period of fifteen years of these cadres.
- c) The integration of MCW into the public health system where it already exists, and where this is not the case, the use of MCW centres as nuclei for the development of public health. In order not to embark lightly on a programme of such importance, a pilot sector has been set up in the rural district of Kizilcahamam, north of Ankara, which will serve at the same time as an experiment and training station.

28. The pilot sector went into operation the first of the year. The first three rural health stations, according to the new scheme, have been opened. These health stations are located where they can serve several villages, totalling perhaps 2,500 people, and provide such elementary health services as preventive MCW work, treatment of minor illnesses, first aid and domiciliary midwifery. They are staffed by an auxiliary nurse-midwife and a sanitary inspector. The programme for practical on-the-spot training of auxiliary personnel has begun.

29. The two MCW demonstration centres in Ankara are operating under difficult conditions: lack of personnel, and the impossibility of turning away patients from outside the central zone. Suggestions for improvement have been made by a WHO MCW consultant.

30. A three-months course for training provincial health directors was held in August/October. The accelerated training course for nurse/midwife instructors or supervisors began in October, as did the course for nurses under the new four- rather than five-year curriculum. It seems that the mobile units have not produced

quite the results expected of them; they have been utilized more as mobile dispensaries than as educational tools. The mobile educational team has carried on with the showing of films and the holding of conferences at an appreciable rate.

31. The distribution of milk and of vitamin capsules has continued through 154 centres.

B. Environmental Sanitation

ETHIOPIA

Previous allocations: \$38,000  
September 1955

32. The plan of operations for this project has been approved and signed by WHO and UNICEF and Government signature is expected in early 1958. In addition to international aid and to Government financing toward the introduction of environmental sanitation facilities in the areas of Adi Arkai, Dembia and Dabet, local financial participation has been envisaged. Collection of funds from communities was hampered during 1957 by procedural difficulties, which, however, found their solution in November. In the Adi Arkai area, where the task was to recondition old water distribution systems, restoration of a cement reservoir started as soon as UNICEF equipment had arrived and a diesel-operated pump was installed. This work was completed in April, affording the town of Adi Arkai a regular supply of sage water through five communal outlets. Maintenance and operation of this installation is carried out and paid for by the community by contract with the Gondar Public Health Centre which regularly supervises the system, and gives health education to the population. In the Dembia district, the rural health training centre in Kolladuba is fostering an environmental sanitation scheme which aims at providing one hundred wells and a thousand latrines in surrounding villages. Initial efforts at well-digging were not successful because of difficult geological conditions, but with the arrival of a jetting rig supplied by the Fund the programme has progressed well. The first well was completed in September, and by the end of the year a total of thirty wells had been dug.

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At the same time a number of demonstration latrines were constructed in Kolladuba, and by the end of 1957, 120 latrines had been installed in villages. Moreover, eight hundred slabs of three different sizes had been prefabricated in a central workshop at Kolladuba and will be installed in villages during the early part of 1958. In this area, thirty-two sanitarians were trained and made repeated visits to every home where installations were made. The public health education programme carried out by trainees from the Gondar college are drawing on the experience gained by such home visits by the sanitarians. Finally, restoration of old wells in the Dabet area is being planned for early 1958.

C. Rehabilitation of Handicapped Children

ISRAEL

Previous allocation: \$19,700  
March 1953

33. At the rehabilitation centre located in the Government Hospital in Sarafand, training of physiotherapists has continued and 15 students graduated in 1957 after a three-year course. In the in-patient wards 80 children were accommodated and received physiotherapy, hydro-therapy, occupational therapy, and reconstructive surgery. During the year a new hydro-therapy wing was opened. In addition to the treatment facilities given at Sarafand, there are two additional non-government institutions in which 100 children were under rehabilitation at Government expense. The centre has, during the year, provided about 800 braces, half of the cost being met by the Ministry of health. Moreover, additional facilities were opened at the centre for ambulatory physiotherapy treatment of 100 patients. During the year vaccination against poliomyelitis of children in the age group between six months and three years eight months was carried out with vaccine partly imported and partly produced in Jaffa. 140,000 children were thus reached. After this campaign it was found that only 55 new polio cases occurred as compared to 495 during the same period in the previous year.

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LEBANON

Previous allocation: \$25,000  
March 1954

34. The WHO prosthetic engineer completed his assignment at the end of March 1957. His work, including the training of technicians, has been taken over by an engineer permanently employed by the rehabilitation centre in Beirut. In the physiotherapy department, which was started with the aid of a WHO expert in this field, the training of seven physiotherapists has continued throughout the year under the direction of a permanently employed expert and with the assistance of two sister nurses previously trained in physiotherapy in France. This first course, which is conducted under the auspices of the Faculty of Medicine in the French University in Beirut, will be concluded in mid-1958.

35. At the end of the year, treatment was being given to 92 children coming from various parts of the Middle East. Rehabilitation work is being carried out under the technical supervision of the part-time French orthopaedist appointed in 1956 to succeed the WHO senior adviser. His assistant, a Lebanese medical officer employed on a full-time basis, will later assume full responsibility for the work in the centre. UNICEF aid to the centre has been completed. The Government has indicated that it might establish an additional centre for rehabilitation of handicapped children in collaboration with a Government hospital, possibly in 1959.

D. Premature Infant Care

EGYPT

Previous allocation: \$13,000  
March 1953

36. Curtailment of Government expenditures resulting from last year's crisis delayed construction work on the premature baby unit at Kasr-el-Aini Hospital in Cairo. For this reason, the top floor of the hospital, where the unit is to be housed was to be completed only in late 1957. The Government also decided to change the location of the home-care unit from Gomhouriya Hospital to the Giza MCW centre, a location which offered better facilities for an effective training programme. This centre was, therefore, suitably remodelled during 1957 and will be put into use when the main premature baby unit at Kasr-el-Aini Hospital is ready during the early part of 1958. UNICEF supplies and equipment for this programme have arrived in the country and will be installed by the beginning of March. One Egyptian doctor and three nurses were awarded fellowships by WHO and visited Finland, returning to the country at the end of 1957. A WHO nurse, who initially was to have come to Egypt in mid-1957, is now scheduled to join the project for a six weeks' period in early 1958.

DISEASE CONTROL

A. Malaria Programmes

<u>BRITISH SOMALILAND</u> (Malaria Control)	Previous allocation: (March 1955)	\$14,600
	<u>Target 1957:</u>	150,000
	<u>Achieved 1957:</u>	25,000

37. No agreement could be reached during 1957 between the British and Ethiopian authorities regarding spraying in areas across the international frontier. The most recent negotiations took place in October, when representatives of the two governments and of the two WHO regional offices concerned met in Addis Ababa, but the outcome was negative as far as this issue was concerned. In view of this situation, spraying in the Protectorate was confined to the permanent settlements along the southern border and to the nomadic population moving within an area extending forty kilometres northwards of the frontier. Operations started on 23 April and continued until 15 May, when heavy rains interrupted further work. In this period a population of approximately 25,000 was protected by residual spraying of 321 permanent and 4,771 nomadic dwellings. The Protectorate Health Service, in co-operation with WHO, is currently formulating a new plan to afford in the future, and within the confines of the territory, maximum protection against malaria by continued residual spraying, larviciding and distributing of anti-malarial drugs. Such a programme, if limited to malaria control, would not be eligible for UNICEF aid, which is available only for eradication programmes or pilot projects ultimately serving eradication.

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EGYPT

Malaria control: Previous allocation: \$101,200  
(April 1952)

DDT plant: Total previous allocations: \$307,900  
First: November 1951  
Latest: September 1957

38. The DDT-producing plant located at Kafr-el-Zayat in the Nile Delta became operationally ready in mid-1957 and was officially inaugurated by the Government on 24 July. By the end of the year, production had reached about 85 tons of technical grade DDT. During 1958 production will be stepped up to 560 tons per year, and the plant should reach its full capacity of 700 tons during 1959. Meanwhile, trial runs will be started to rest the manufacture of a 50 per cent wettable DDT powder. The UN/TAA production engineer remains with the plant as an adviser, however, the UN/TAA chemist has not as yet been recruited.

39. The Board last September authorized the transfer of certain equipment from the Ceylon DDT plant. The transfer of this equipment was arranged **at** the end of 1957 and arrived at the factory site in January 1958. Meanwhile, the Government has asked the Fund to procure, on its behalf, various **spare parts and** other supplies which are needed to maintain the plant.

40. The Government is anxious to put into final form a national plan for malaria eradication, and a WHO malariologist came to Egypt at the end of 1957 to carry out a survey for this purpose. On the basis of his findings, plans will be developed the early part of 1958, possibly for implementation in 1959.

ETHIOPIA

Previous allocation: \$26,000  
(March 1956)  
(pilot project)

41. Progress on this programme is reported in a recommendation for further aid submitted to the current Board session (E/ICEF/L.1195).

IRAN

Malaria control: Previous allocation: \$350,000  
(March 1954)

Malaria eradication: Previous allocations: \$1,940,000  
(March 1956, September 1957)

Population of malarious areas: 12,000,000

Target 1957: 6,500,000

Achieved 1957: 5,771,100

Target 1958: 6,050,000

42. Progress on this programme is reported in a recommendation for further aid submitted to the current Board session (E/ICEF/L.1215).

IRAQ

Malaria control: Total allocations: \$164,900  
(April 1952 to September 1954)

Malaria eradication: Previous allocations: \$165,400  
(October 1956 to September 1957)

Population of malarious areas: 4,000,000

Target 1957: 3,812,000

Achieved 1957: 3,844,000

Target 1958: 4,000,000

43. Progress on this programme is reported in a recommendation for further aid submitted to the current Board (E/ICEF/L.1213)

JORDAN

Malaria eradication: Previous allocation: \$66,000  
(March 1956)

Population of malarious areas: 1,185,000

Target 1957: 1,185,000

Achieved 1957: 200,000

Target 1958: 1,185,000

44. Due to political conditions in the country during 1957, the Government was not able to start the campaign as had been foreseen and was therefore again forced to retard malaria eradication by one year. This does not apply, however, to the work in the Yarmuk/Jordan valleys, where 200,000 persons are protected through anti-larval measures carried out by UNRWA. Meanwhile, the headquarters, and laboratories of the project were established in 1957, Simultaneously, two

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medical officers were recruited to take charge of the work in East and West Jordan respectively, under the overall supervision of the Government malariologist in charge of the campaign. The training of technicians has continued satisfactorily, including six technicians in parasitology and two in entomology. During the year, the Government malariologist carried out epidemiological surveys in thirty sample areas in East Jordan, where 1,807 blood smears were collected. Positive reactions in smears from the Karak Valley on the eastern shore of the Dead Sea indicate a number of foci of infection in this district.

45. Provided that main spraying operations can start in 1958 as planned, the new time schedule of the campaign will include the years 1958/1961. The plan of operations for the project has been revised accordingly and awaits signature. It is also hoped that the WHO advisory team of a malariologist and a sanitarian can be recruited and assigned early in the year. During 1957 a malariologist was not recruited due to various difficulties.

LEBANON

Malaria control : Total previous allocation: \$14,000  
(October 1952 to March 1954)

Malaria eradication: Total previous allocations: \$40,900  
(March 1956 to September 1957)

Population of malarious areas: 200,000

Target 1957 : 300,000

Achieved 1957: 214,546

Target 1958 : 200,000

46. At the outset of 1957, the Government undertook a review of the methods used in malaria eradication and the statistical system of recording results. It was found that the statistical returns for larvicide work had considerably over-rated the number of persons protected by these measures and also that where both spraying and larvicide methods were used, beneficiaries had been counted twice. A careful revision of the situation established that approximately 200,000 persons are still living in areas of malaria risk. The Government decided to expand residual spraying to include all these areas and at the same time to discontinue most of the larviciding. The Government also agreed to include in the malaria eradication campaign residual spraying in refugee camps located in malarious areas, thereby taking over from UNRWA the protection from malaria of 15,000 Palestine refugees in these camps.

47. Spraying operations started in April and continued until July, when protection of 214,546 persons in all provinces of the country was achieved. The campaign is now directed by a qualified Lebanese entomologist trained under a WHO fellowship at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Malaria surveys are regularly carried out by four teams of trained staff working from field stations established at Tripoli for the northern areas, Zahle for the Bekaa valley, Saida for the south, and Beirut for the Mount Lebanon area. During the past year these teams have collected an average of 3,500-4,000 blood smears per month. In order to facilitate detection of malaria, the Government prepared draft legislation to make it a notifiable disease; this became law in January 1958.

48. Operations in 1958 will repeat the spraying on the same scale, while the setting up of a surveillance system and the gradual discontinuation of spraying is to be initiated beginning in 1959. The Board last September approved the provision of insecticides for the period 1958/1960, to supplement supplies provided by the Government. The arrival of a WHO malaria evaluation team has been delayed until 1958, when it will assist the Government to establish surveillance measures.

SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN  
ADMINISTRATION

Malaria control: Total previous  
allocations: \$151,900  
First: March 1955  
Latest: September 1957

Population of malarious areas: 230,000

Target 1957: 230,000

Achieved 1957: 220,000

Target 1958: 230,000

49. The target for 1957 was to protect 168,000 persons. In the course of two spraying seasons, the total population brought under protection reached 220,000. Insecticides for the second spraying cycle, which normally falls in the period June-August, were delayed in arrival but the same applied to the start of the south-east monsoon rains, so that the campaign was completed without interruption.

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Reports show that the spraying work was well prepared and executed. Temporary roads were constructed by the local communities in order to facilitate access by spraying teams to isolated settlements.

50. Administrative and operative separation between the mass campaign (in lower Webbe Shibeli and lower Juba) and the pilot zone work (around middle Webbe Shibeli) was maintained during the year, but in 1958 spraying in the pilot zone will be integrated into the national programme. In the 1957 post-operational period, surveys were carried out in the pilot zone and in the mass campaign area. It was difficult to obtain a sufficient number of blood specimens from infants and special efforts were made in the two last months of the year to complete this phase of the surveys.

51. A WHO malaria consultant visited the territory in July to assess the work in this project and to make an evaluation of the technical problems involved. He advised that before it was possible to plan malaria eradication, it would be necessary to obtain further information regarding whether transmission had been completely interrupted or not. To this end the system of entomological observations must be extended and the co-ordination between the operational and laboratory sections of the project should be strengthened. It is hoped that a WHO entomologist adviser can be assigned to the project in early 1958 to help organize further these aspects of the work. Moreover, the consultant proposed that attention be given to the need for extending protective measures to the nomadic population, especially in the north, by means of a supply of anti-malarial drugs.

SUDAN

Total previous allocations: \$83,000  
(pilot project)  
First: September 1955  
Latest: September 1957

Target 1957: 250,000  
Achieved 1957: 225,000  
Target 1958: 475,000

52. 1957 represents the first year of a three-year malaria eradication pilot project for which a plan of operations has now been signed by UNICEF and WHO and is awaiting Government signature. Three WHO advisers are in the country and the Government has appointed two members to this team along with an adequate

number of other staff (four public health officers, eight sanitary overseers, three laboratory technicians and three entomologists and seven other staff). Pre-operational surveys were carried out in the project area, including a spleen survey in 38 villages. Spraying started in May and covered a total population of 225,000 in 620 villages. During the latter part of the year further training of auxiliary staff was being given to public health officers, sanitarians and laboratory technicians. The year's spraying operations were evaluated to form the basis for an expansion of the pilot project in 1958. This will involve extending operations southward to protect an additional area with a population of 250,000 so that in 1958 475,000 persons will be protected. The Board approved in September 1957, a further allocation to provide additional supplies and equipment for this second year.

SYRIA

<u>Malaria control:</u>	Total allocation: \$209,000 (April 1952 to September 1954)
<u>Malaria eradication:</u>	Previous allocations: \$140,000 (March 1956)
<u>Population of malarious areas:</u>	1,150,000
<u>Target 1957:</u>	1,150,000
<u>Achieved 1957:</u>	870,652
<u>Target 1958:</u>	1,150,000

53. Progress on this programme is reported in a recommendation for further aid submitted to the current Board session (E/ICEF/L.1158).

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TURKEY

Malaria eradication: Total allocation: \$1,488,000  
(October 1956 to April 1957)

Population of malarious areas: 9,500,000

Target 1957: 8,577,000

Achieved 1957: 8,773,357

Target 1958: 6,900,000

54. Progress on this programme is reported in a recommendation to the current Board session (E/ICEF/L.1201).

B. Tuberculosis Control Programmes

IRAN

Total previous allocations: \$317,900

First: November 1950

Latest: October 1956

55. Although the first phase of the new mass campaign started in mid-1957, progress during the year has been somewhat below the level which initially was planned. At year-end, 550,000 persons had been tested (as against a 1957 target of 650,000) and 300,000 were vaccinated (target: 250,000). The targets had been revised downward because of the late start. The main cause of the retarded pace was the absence during a large part of the year of full-time central direction of activities. The plan of operations calls for four BCG doctors, but only one has been appointed. International medical supervision was available for only a few months. In July, a BCG committee was appointed by the Ministry of Health and during the autumn a director was appointed to take charge of the campaign. Training of two-man vaccination teams continued during the year, and the number of trained teams increased from six in April to 44 by the end of November. Full strength of eighty teams should be reached by April 1958. As the programme of training progressed, the rate of testing and vaccinations showed an upward trend. During the first months of the year, an average of 30,000 tests were performed each month, while in October 87,000 tests

were carried out. UNICEF supplies and transport arrived in the country early in the year and were progressively put to use in Khuzistan and Teheran during the first half of the year, and later in Azerbaijan. UNICEF has continued to supply the campaign with vaccine, because final approval of local production at the Pasteur Institute in Teheran has not as yet been obtained from WHO. A WHO consultant visited Teheran toward the end of the year and it is expected that during 1958 the campaign will receive locally produced vaccine. Recruitment of the WHO BCG adviser, who was expected in the country in July, was delayed until mid-September; he remained with the project until shortly before the end of the year. The Government hopes to be able to test 2,500,000 people in 1958 and to vaccinate 1,000,000.

<u>JORDAN</u> (aid completed)	Total previous allocations:	\$58,200
	First:	September 1952
	Latest:	September 1957

56. UNICEF aid to this programme came to a close at the end of 1957, when the Government made arrangements to continue the provision of vaccine and tuberculin from their own resources. BCG activities became fully integrated in 1957 into the permanent services of the Ministry of Health, and are now carried out through schools, five permanent centres and by means of a mobile unit based at the tuberculosis centre in Amman. Reports provided by the Government show that in the period January/November 1957, 79,598 tuberculin tests were made and 29,571 vaccinations.

<u>LIBYA</u>	Total previous allocations:	\$92,300
	First:	May 1951
	Latest:	September 1954

57. UNICEF has continued to supply tuberculin and BCG vaccine to this programme throughout 1957 and will continue to do so until the end of the Government's fiscal year 1957/58 (31 March 1958), after which date the Government will procure its own requirements. Two federal BCG teams are carrying out operations

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which in 1957 took place in Cyrenaica. The available reports show that in the period January to August 1957 the teams tested 24,925 persons, of whom 6,407 were vaccinated. The campaign involves, principally, testing of schoolchildren and also other population groups exposed to infection.

SUDAN

Total previous allocations: \$41,700  
First: October 1952  
Latest: September 1954

58. Up till the end of April 1957 the WHO BCG vaccination team operated in the northern part of Malakal-Shilluk district of the Upper Nile Province and in the Renk and Bentiu districts. The team then moved to Wau, capital of the Bahr el Ghazal Province, where training in BCG vaccination work was given to two dressers in the civil hospital. A permanent vaccination centre was subsequently established in this hospital and started work in July. During the autumn the BCG team carried out testing and vaccination in Equatoria and later in the Bor district in the Upper Nile Province. In the period December 1956 to November 1957 the total of 169,691 persons were tested, of whom, 45,207 were BCG vaccinated. Vaccination is generally well accepted by the population and the team has been receiving good support and assistance from the authorities and tribal chiefs. The movement of the team is, to a large extent, dependent on climatic conditions and poor communications in many areas during the rainy season.

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TURKEY

Total previous allocations: \$199,400  
First: May 1951  
Latest: March 1956

59. During the year the campaign was pressed in the following provinces: Urfa, Adiyaman, Sivas, Malatya, Maras, Rize, Gümüşane, Erzincan, Erzurum, Elâzig, Diyarbakir, Mardin, Kars, Agri, and the city of Ankara.

60. Although slowed down during the winter months, and reduced to 57 teams, the campaign resumed during the summer on a broader base of 71 teams as against 80 called for in the plan of operations.

61. Approximately 3,370,000 people were tuberculin tested during 1957 and 1,390,000 were vaccinated.

C. Treponemal Diseases

ETHIOPIA (VD)

Previous allocation: \$77,000  
(October 1956)

62. The plan of operations for this project was signed by WHO, UNICEF and the Government in April 1957, and provides for control operations in the areas of Addis Ababa, Dessie, Lekempti and Gondar. The main centre in Addis Ababa was moved during 1957 to new premises where sufficient space is available in the same compound for clinics, laboratory, training facilities, storage of supplies and offices. The training of twenty-four national staff as health educators, dressers and laboratory technicians was continued and has now been completed. Clinic attendance at this centre has continued at a high rate throughout the year, showing an average of ten thousand visits per month. A systematic examination of specially affected groups in the capital was carried out. Altogether, 20,000 persons were examined in Addis Ababa during the year, and 16,000 were given treatment. The target is to treat 72,000 persons by the end of 1958.

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63. The mass campaign in Dessie should have started in February 1957 but was delayed until June due to difficulties in finding suitable personnel in time and also because the transport required for this campaign met with delays in shipment. The population of this area, located in the Wallo Province, is estimated to be about 100,000 and the plan is to provide complete coverage by mass treatment to the entire population. During the six months in 1957 when the team set up for this campaign was in the field, treatment was given to some 15,000. Complete coverage in the sectors under treatment has not yet been reached - the average attendance was seventy per cent. Various measures are being taken to improve this situation, including the strengthening of health education and methods of locating and registering the population. The Governor of the province will give his active support.

64. A pre-natal pilot project is to be undertaken in the Lekempti area of Wallega Province which will aim at examination and treatment for syphilis of all pregnant women and women of child-bearing age in this area. Personnel for the team to carry out this work has been under training in Addis Ababa, but the team could not be fully assembled until recruitment abroad of a medical officer in November. The pre-natal syphilis control project is now expected to commence early in 1958. In Gondar, a small scale VD project has meanwhile been implemented in the town as part of the training of public health auxiliaries through the Gondar Public Health College. Here also, a medical officer trained in VD control has been lacking, and the Government is making efforts to recruit such an officer to start and direct a more comprehensive system of VD control through the rural health centres in the Begemidir Province, in which Gondar is situated.

IRAN (Bejel/syphilis)

Previous allocation:       \$34,000  
(March 1956)

65. During the major part of the year, efforts in the project were concentrated upon the training of staff to make up the first two of three field teams. Three technicians who had received training at the end of 1956 were assigned to do laboratory work in the Teheran centre, while sixteen staff commenced their training

course in May. This training will be completed in mid-January 1958. Meanwhile the Teheran centre carried out a survey of 15,000 pregnant women in that city, finding an average of seven per cent sero-positive. An Iranian venereologist was appointed Director-General of the project and will, in addition to his duties as head of the Teheran centre, direct the mass campaign to start during 1958. Two WHO advisers - a venereologist and a serologist - are now attached to the project. In January 1958 the senior adviser will proceed to Khuzistan, later to be followed by the two trained teams to complete a sample survey of the area. Where a five per cent or higher prevalence rate is found, mass treatment will be given to the population, and it is estimated that by May the teams will thus have treated 20,000 to 40,000 persons in that province. At the outset of the hot season both teams will proceed to Khurasan to survey the frontier area, where reports indicate prevalence of endemic syphilis. During the summer, training of the third team will be started, to take five to six months. In the autumn, one team will return to Khuzistan to continue mass treatment, while the second team goes to Baluchistan where the WHO adviser performed a survey in 1956.

SYRIA (Bejel/Syphilis)

Total previous allocations: \$52,200  
First: November 1951  
Latest: September 1953

66. The mass campaign phase of this programme ended in May 1957, at which time a cumulative total of 155,091 persons had been examined, of whom 127,753 had been treated with penicillin by the team. This campaign started as a pilot scheme in early 1955 based on a permanent centre in Deir-el-Zor on the Euphrates River, and expanded as a full scale operation a year later. A WHO team was assigned to the project from March 1954 to November 1956, and issued last year a final report on the results of the mass campaign. This report confirms that in Syria bejel has been prevalent as a childhood disease particularly in the north-eastern districts, but that it has been decreasing over the last ten or fifteen years. This is in part attributed to a gradual improvement in the

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standard of living in the affected areas. In the course of the campaign, the semi-nomadic habits of the population hampered survey and treatment work. It was thus usually not possible to reach all inhabitants of a given locality during a single visit, and it became necessary to revisit villages regularly at six month intervals. In this manner the national and international team members eventually managed to cover the whole of the highly endemic area situated along the Euphrates between the town of al-Raqqah and the Iraqi border.

67. At the end of the mass campaign surveys indicated that the main pockets of bejel infection had been neutralized. The field team was disbanded and five of the vehicles provided by the Fund for the campaign were transferred to Syria's malaria eradication project. Work has, however, continued in the permanent centre in Deir-el-Zor where an average of 625 persons were examined and 500 treated each month during 1957.

68. The centre plans in 1958 to resume field work in the area between al-Raqqah and Deir-el-Zor and along the Khabur River, a tributary of the Euphrates. Although previous surveys have shown that present prevalence rates are comparatively low, it is believed that additional measures of mass treatment will be required in these particular areas. For this purpose continued use will be made of penicillin provided by UNICEF, of which an adequate stock is available in the project's stores. Inasmuch as the international phase of the programme is complete, this will be the last regular report on the programme.

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D. Trachoma

EGYPT

Previous allocation: \$19,000  
March 1954

69. Pilot control operations were terminated because of the national emergency at the end of 1956 and remained in suspense until March 1957 when work was resumed by the national staff. The WHO adviser did not return and was not replaced.

70. The present undertaking involves a one-year pilot project in the area, during which an intermittent schedule of treatment with one per cent aureomycin ointment is given to children in the school and pre-school ages. Up to the end of the year 6,434 school children were examined and of these 3,966 received treatment. Moreover, 10,462 younger children were being treated at home. In order to carry out this schedule, the Egyptian ophthalmologist employed by the project arranged training courses for the health centre nurses and dressers who, in turn, demonstrated to teachers, older school children and mothers the technique of applying the ointment. In this manner, younger school children were given treatment by their senior classmates while mothers were taught to take care of their small children.

71. Evaluation of this pilot project started in November and will continue until mid-1958. The Government may consider extending anti-trachoma work to other parts of the country and has indicated its wish to receive further help for this purpose once the evaluation of the pilot phase has been completed.

ETHIOPIA

Previous allocation: \$40,200  
September 1957

72. A pilot control programme, for which the Board approved aid in September, is to start in January 1958 and involves mass treatment with antibiotic ointment and sulpha drugs of 37,000 school children and 35,000 family contacts in Eritrea, and a survey combined with limited treatment in Ethiopia proper. In Eritrea, full preparations for the campaign were made in 1957, when 120 teachers and thirty-five dressers were trained in methods of treatment. A pre-operational survey was carried out in over three hundred schools in the territory and was completed by December. Transport for the programme has been shipped in by UNICEF, and after a revision of the treatment schedule agreed upon in early December with WHO, the Fund received sufficient details to start procurement of drugs, part of which were shipped by air to arrive in Asmara in time to start treatment during the spring school term starting on 10 January.

73. The work in Ethiopia proper cannot be started until a WHO ophthalmologist adviser is recruited and assigned to the country. It is anticipated that he will arrive in early 1958. Meanwhile, a plan of operations for the project as a whole was under clearance at the end of the year and will probably be signed in early 1958.

TURKEY

Previous allocation: \$6,900  
October 1956

74. 1957 was devoted to setting up the anti-trachoma pilot project. It was hoped to start at the end of the school year 1956/1957. In fact, it only proved possible to start in October 1957. The campaign is restricted in its first year to the province of Gaziantep and Adana. The WHO ophthalmologist was in the field in July and August to examine preparatory measures for the programme. The required personnel have been appointed. The immediate programme calls for treatment of 3,650 children through the schools and home treatment of some 1,150 families.

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E. Mycosis

SYRIA

Previous allocation: \$40,000  
September 1953

75. In the course of 1957, treatment of mycosis continued through the four stationary centres in Damascus, Aleppo, Hama and Der'a at approximately the same rate as in 1956. In Damascus, where treatment is provided with two X-ray units (one of which was supplied by UNICEF), 7,500 children were clinically examined, 5,500 were examined by microscopy and 1,550 were given treatment during the year. In Aleppo, the centre examined 19,000 children (1,960 by microscopy) and treated 1,570 with the X-ray unit provided by the Fund. The mobile X-ray unit for this programme was procured in 1957 and arrived in Syria in August. It is to be used in the areas where no stationary facilities are within convenient reach, and the unit is to be put into operation in early 1958. In order to help start this work WHO made available as a short-term consultant the dermatologist who had been assigned previously (in 1954-1956) as adviser to this project. He arrived in Damascus at the end of the year for four weeks to train the medical officer and technicians who are to use this mobile unit.

76. While only about 10,000 children have been treated in UNICEF-assisted centres during the past three years, a report issued last year by the WHO advisory team, at the conclusion of their assignment, points out that with the existing facilities now in the country, treatment could be extended to reach a rate of ten to twelve thousand cases annually. The report recommends measures to be taken to reach this target, which would make it possible to attain total control of the disease within the next five to seven years.

F. Leprosy

ETHIOPIA

Total previous allocations: \$39,500

First: September 1955

Latest: September 1957

77. Due to the great demand for treatment experienced since this programme was started, UNICEF was requested in 1957 to provide additional drugs and transport in the face of shortages expected for 1958. In September, the Board approved a further allocation of \$18,000 for this purpose. During the year, treatment of infected patients increased from 16,400 to 27,200, and the number of out-patient clinics increased from six to fifteen. These small out-stations operated by a leprosy dresser seem to work very satisfactorily. There has been no increase in the rate of institutional care for leprosy patients; the number of beds in the three leprosy hospitals remains at 555; and in the six existing segregation villages attendance has dropped. An analysis to determine the gain in ambulatory treatment as compared to treatment under institutional conditions has shown that whereas at the end of 1956 seventy per cent of all leprosy patients were treated with sulfone drugs on an out-patient basis, this rate had by November risen to eighty-eight per cent.

78. Training activities continued during 1957, and in June a new course for leprosy dressers was started at the Zennebe Work Hospital in Addis Ababa. Twenty-eight trainees were recruited from among male and female leprosy patients. They will be trained for eighteen months. Moreover, a short course was arranged for sixty-five medical officers from the capital and the provinces. This course was held in connexion with a national leprosy conference in Addis Ababa during early September. The director of the leprosy service undertook during the year a survey in three provinces where high incidence of the disease is known to exist. The results of this survey will help to make concrete plans for future extension of treatment in these areas. The Ministry of Public Health has confirmed its policy to welcome participation in the programme by missionary societies and other voluntary groups active in the country. Standards for diagnosis, classification and treatment have been published for obligatory application.

NUTRITION

A. Food Conservation

EGYPT

Total previous allocations: \$240,000  
First: October 1952  
Latest: October 1956

79. Work on the Sakha Milk Processing Plant has progressed well during 1957 and at the end of the year, the main processing building was completed, excepting certain foundations which are to be laid out for major machinery. Work on the service buildings had also been started and they are expected to be ready during the first quarter of 1958. Certain problems were met with respect to an adequate water supply to the plant, and the Water Board has now agreed to build a pipeline to the plant to be ready in April 1958. Moreover, the Government will in 1958 construct 30-40 kilometres of all-weather roads in the Sakha area in order to secure access to milk collecting centres. This work should be completed by September 1958. The Minister of Agriculture has confirmed that a director will be appointed in the new year to take full responsibility for the co-ordination of all activities in this project.

80. Advisory services have been given by an FAO agricultural engineer stationed in Egypt and FAO has also appointed a plant management adviser who is to arrive in the country in May 1958. Three of the Government's technical staff, will, during this year, visit installations abroad on FAO fellowships, while UNICEF engineers will give further assistance to the Government, in order to complete the installation of the plant. The Government is anxious to have this project (which it regards as an important pilot undertaking) in operation during 1958 and every effort is being made to have the first test-runs started by the autumn of the year.

IRAN

Total previous allocations: \$418,000  
First: November 1951  
Latest: March 1953

81. Progress on this programme is reported in a recommendation for further aid submitted to the current Board (E/ICEF/L.1175).

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IRAQ

Total previous allocations: \$246,100

First: October 1952

Latest: March 1956

82. In order to expedite the work on this project, the Government decided to reorganize its administration. Responsibility for development of milk conservation, which hitherto had been vested in the Ministry of Health, was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Iraqi official in executive charge was appointed Director-General. Moreover, the Council of Ministers passed regulations for the establishment of a five-member Board to be given a separate budget and administration. Several contracts were being let at the end of 1957 for installation of services in the plant. During the year, city water supply has been piped to the plant building and installation of UNICEF equipment is expected to be completed during the early part of 1958. During this year work is also to start on the first cattle compound. An FAO dairy expert stationed in Iraq has made a more detailed survey in the Baghdad area and has reported that some 20,000 litres of raw milk are immediately available to the plant at any time it is ready to start. It is hoped that the first test runs in the plant can be made before the end of 1958.

ISRAEL

Total previous allocations: \$507,000

First: April 1952

Latest: September 1957

83. During 1957 the Board authorized further assistance to help bottling of milk in the five dairies (four in the Tel Aviv area and one in Haifa) which the Fund previously had helped to develop. There is a continuously growing demand for bottled milk, partly due to the population increase in the Tel Aviv area, and the dairies are now able to enlarge the area which they serve. The fact that bottled milk is now available has also increased the per caput consumption of liquid milk. In Haifa, construction of the new bottling plant at the existing dairy was resumed during the year and it is expected that after installation of UNICEF equipment, this plant will be

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ready to start processing in the summer of 1958. Distribution of pasteurized bottled milk will then be possible in all urban areas of Haifa and Galilee, including the towns of Acre, Nahariya, Tiberias and Safad. Meanwhile, the temporary installation in Haifa supplies, in bottles, over seventy per cent of the raw milk received at this dairy. The dairy management reports that in this city per caput consumption of milk has increased by fifteen per cent since bottling was introduced. The dairy has introduced small 200 gramme bottles of milk which are sold through kiosks in town and which during the summer of 1957 accounted for some 250,000 litres of the milk processed.

84. In Jerusalem, where a temporary installation was previously made, over half of the raw milk available in the area in 1957 was processed and distributed in bottles. The first budgetary allocations were provided to start the construction of a new bottling plant. During the year, the Government has continued to make available funds to improve raw milk handling at the farms and to transport raw milk to the dairies. In 1957, some eighty per cent of the raw milk was cooled on the farms, and it is the Government's plan to help modernize and augment cooling equipment so that within the next two years all farms producing appreciable quantities of milk will be thus equipped. Similar progress has also been made in the provision of tanker transport for raw milk, which currently has reached the stage where more than half of the milk sent to city processing and bottling plants is shipped in road tankers. The central milk board set up by the Government has been taking an active part in the provision of loans and technical advice to raw milk producers in order further to improve the handling and production of raw milk.

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SYRIA

Previous allocation: \$500,000  
(October 1956)

85. The Government is still considering the plan of operations for the two projected plants in Damascus and Aleppo, and there were no developments in the actual implementation of this project during 1957. However, toward the end of the year, the draft plan was approved by a committee of representatives from the Ministries of Health, Economy and Finance and it was also passed by the Ministry of Agriculture. A decision of the Council of Ministers, specifically regarding inclusion of adequate funds for this project in the general budget, is now awaited. In September, an FAO dairy production expert was assigned to Syria to help prepare for the milk conservation project.

TURKEY

Total previous allocations: \$255,000  
First: October 1952  
Latest: September 1954

86. Problems of milk collection and distribution are being studied by the Governmental Authorities. The importation of milk cans and transport for collecting milk from the surrounding villages has been authorized. Some transport has already been received.

87. Rather extensive plans have been made to get the plant into full operation. As an emergency step the Government is importing 500 tons of non-fat milk powder and 20 tons of anhydrous butter oil that will be used in the plant to supplement local supplies. Many cattle afflicted with foot and mouth disease and brucellosis had to be eliminated during 1957 in the Ankara area. The resultant loss of milk should, however, be offset soon by importations of improved dairy heifers. Feed mixing stations sponsored by USAID are destined to improve winter milk supplies considerably in the villages. Emphasis on greater use of alfalfa hay will also help. An increase of 800% land seeded to alfalfa during the past seven years is reported.

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88. The Government has reactivated the National Dairy Advisory Committee to help develop and initiate national policies that will result in improvement in milk supplies not only in Arkara, but throughout the rest of the country as well. FAO has been asked to supply experts under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, to work with the Committee in its long-range planning. FAO has already provided one expert in plant operation and the expert mentioned above is being recruited.

89. US/ICA has been assisting the Government and working with plant officials in many fields including demonstration feeding and breeding programmes, the importation of feed grains and advising on technical problems of dairying.

#### B. Child Feeding

##### ETHIOPIA

Total previous allocations: \$30,700  
First: March 1955  
Latest: September 1957  
(includes 813,000 lb. powdered skim milk)

90. This project started in 1955 and comprises the training in nutrition of school teachers, general nutrition education, school gardening and the provision of supplementary feeding in schools. During 1957, teacher training continued by means of a summer vacation course, the third of its kind. Ninety-six teachers attended this course, which was given at the Ambo Agricultural College, where at the same time a special course in home economics was given to twelve female teachers. This brings the total number of teachers trained in this programme to 178, of whom 121 have attended twice. The Ministry of Education has pursued its programme of nutrition education, and theoretical and practical teaching in the production and preparation of food has continued as part of the regular curriculum in all schools where the feeding and gardening programme is implemented. A simple textbook in Amharic on poultry farming was issued this year, and another about vegetable gardening is to be distributed in 1958. There is evidence of a growing interest in nutrition beyond the primary and secondary schools. Parents and occasionally

entire communities have shown an active wish to participate, and on the academic level the FAO adviser has lectured at the University College, at teachers' training colleges and at the Seminary for Coptic Priests.

27. The school feeding programme has expanded to include 12,000 children at the end of the school term in June. In the 1957/58 school year, which started in October, further schools were included and in December it was estimated that 18,000 children were benefiting from milk provided through UNICEF. The daily school snack is gradually being augmented with locally produced foods, mostly brought by the children from their homes and therefore as yet representing a widely varied selection. In boarding schools and to especially poor children local foods are provided by the Government. The number of school gardens has also increased from forty-three in March to fifty-four at the end of the year, with 39,000 children participating. The Government has revised its earlier decision not to establish school gardens except immediately adjacent to the school, and it will in the future be possible to use land elsewhere if no arable plots are found within the school compound. This may lead to the development of family gardens in small plots on public land, similar to the system of allotment gardens elsewhere. Some difficulties were experienced in establishing a seed reproduction scheme due to the lack of official support. Plans are, however, being pursued to concentrate in three agricultural schools the production of seeds to meet the full requirements of the gardening programme in 1959. Meanwhile, seeds for 1958 will be provided by UNICEF. The FAO representative will remain in the country through 1958 by prolongation of a special arrangement between the Government and FAO, whereby FAO will be reimbursed by the Ministry of Education. In November an FAO/WHO nutrition consultant visited Ethiopia to undertake a three months' survey of the nutritional conditions, especially among infants and children up to and including the school age. The survey will also serve to assess the value of the entire school nutrition project, jointly assisted by FAO and UNICEF.

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IRAN

Total previous allocations: \$26,300  
First: November 1951  
Latest: April 1957  
(includes 4,768,400 lb. powdered skim milk)

92. During 1957 the Government decided to establish school feeding as a separate and permanent service through which supplementary school meals would be fed to children in primary and elementary schools on a gradually increasing scale. Since 1955, milk for the pre-school feeding programme has been issued through schools. In the first part of 1957 this distribution through schools had reached 149,000 beneficiaries in Teheran and in other parts of the country. In April, the Board approved aid to continue this distribution and also to help the Government initiate a school lunch pilot project through which a daily mid-morning meal was to be given 3,000 school children in the south-eastern province of Iran. An FAO nutritionist arrived in the country in July to help set up this pilot scheme in Zahidan, Kerman and Zabul. By December distribution had been started in five schools in Zahidan with 1,313 school children and six schools in Kerman with 1,454 children. Implementation of the programme in Zabul was delayed because sufficient funds were not allocated in time and work will be started in the early part of 1958. The project is jointly financed by the Ministries of Health and Education. Furthermore, the national UNICEF Committee is providing transport of foodstuffs and other supplies from Teheran to the project area.

IRAQ

Total previous allocations: \$157,300  
First: October 1952  
Latest: April 1957  
(includes 10,956,602 lb. powdered skim milk)

93. Final reports for the 1956/57 school year show that a total number of 212,000 primary school children participated in the feeding service. Of these, 74,450 received a full daily meal while the rest benefited from the "expanded service" through which a glass of milk and a fish-liver-oil capsule were provided daily. The fifth school year during which this service has been operating started in October, and so far the reports show that 79,931 received the daily supplementary

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meal and 168,972 took part in the expanded service. During this year special attention was given to the organization of the service, due to various reports reaching the Ministry of Health concerning administrative and other difficulties hampering the implementation of the project. For this reason, the Government requested FAO to assist in a country-wide survey of the work, and at the end of the year two FAO nutritionists undertook a two-month review in the field. This team observed that, on the whole, with the exception of Hilla Liwa where the absence of funds and a school health officer curtailed operations, the school feeding service has been remarkably successful and is expanding fairly rapidly. Officials and teachers are showing great interest and have remarked that the results of the past years' feeding service are often spectacular. Enrolment regularly increases in schools where a snack or a meal is served, attendance has become more regular and scholastic results have noticeably improved. Thus, for example, officials in Karbala Liwa pointed out that whereas normally students from town schools rank highest in final examinations, the two best pupils this year came from rural schools where feeding had been introduced. The team also drew to the Government's attention that a more rapid conversion from the expanded to the full-meal phase should be made. On the basis of the final and detailed recommendation by the survey team, the Government will draw up plans in early 1958 for continuation of the service. In order to strengthen the consolidation of this programme, the Government has requested UNICEF aid for a further school year (1958/59). It will be possible for this to be accomplished through expenditure of funds remaining from previous allocations by the Board to this programme. The Government is in process of arrangements to accept full financial responsibility for this programme subsequent to these expenditures.

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JORDAN

Total previous allocation: <sup>a/</sup>  
First: September 1954  
Latest: October 1956  
(includes 1,468,000 lb. powdered skim milk)

94. Although conditions for a rapid expansion of the school feeding programme appeared to be present during the latter part of 1956, the conditions in the country at the outset of 1957 caused the Government to close schools during the second half of the 1956/57 school year, and the programme was therefore suspended. Normal activities were, however, resumed at the start of the 1957/58 school year in the autumn, and it is estimated that in the course of the school year the target of 35,000 beneficiaries will be reached. The Government has made arrangements to provide for this programme quantities of sugar and rice which together with the milk procured by UNICEF can be prepared as a pudding in the schools. Considering the break that has occurred in the programme due to civil unrest, it is now foreseen that the aid authorized by the Board will suffice to carry the programme through the 1958/59 school year, after which one may anticipate a request for further assistance.

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<sup>a/</sup> The allocation for this programme was entirely for freight to cover costs to UNICEF of shipping dry skim milk available free of cost from United States supplies.

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LIBYA

Total previous allocations: \$149,000  
First: September 1954  
Latest: September 1957  
(including 4,933,440 lb. powdered skim milk)

95. During the school year October 1956 - end May 1957, a total of 75,000 school children have been reached through 374 schools in the three provinces. UNICEF supplies of milk, vitamins and soap within the first allocation were sufficient to cover their requirements. In March 1957, the Board made a new allocation to allow the continuation and expansion of the school feeding programme for a further period of two years, i.e., the 1957/1958 and 1958/1959 scholastic years. The expanded programme will cover a total of 80,000 children through 400 schools during the school year October 1957 - May 1958 and 90,000 children through 420 schools during the school year October 1958 - May 1959. A further allocation was made by the Board in September 1957 for the provision of additional quantities of vitamin capsules and certain items of cooking and serving equipment.

96. An FAO nutritionist arrived in the country on 21 August 1957 for an initial assignment of six months. In addition to his plan for making a survey of the food consumption of the Libyan population as a whole in order to promote nutrition education throughout the country he will also assist the Government in developing a sound programme on nutrition education in the schools with the expectation that such a programme could gradually be developed to improve nutrition conditions generally.

97. The Government continued providing dates, bread and sugar as a local matching food and will continue providing these commodities during future years. CARE is providing cheese and flour.

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SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN  
ADMINISTRATION

Previous allocation: \$10,200  
(September 1957)  
(including 924,000 lb. powdered skim milk)

98. A programme involving the provision of supplementary feeding through schools and health centres, nutrition education and the development of two school dairies, was planned during the year and the Board authorized aid to this project at its last session. Preparations to implement this scheme were made during the latter half of the year, involving the organization of community participation in the areas along the coastal zone and among settlements up the rivers. On the arrival of milk supplies shipped in by the Fund, small scale trial distributions through schools and MCW centres were implemented and proved successful. Full scale operation of the project is scheduled to start during the first months of 1958 to reach 15,000 school children and 5,000 mothers and infants. Valuable help in the planning of this programme is being given by a resident UN Social Affairs adviser and by the UNESCO Fundamental Education project operating in the territory.

SYRIA

Previous allocation: \$37,500  
(September 1955)<sup>a/</sup>

99. This programme, for which the Board approved aid in September 1955, was planned to strengthen three aspects of health and welfare activities among the country's school children: school feeding, school gardening and school health. The implementation of the UNICEF aid has so far hardly begun for a number of reasons, including differences of opinion within the project's administration. In the case of school feeding, milk distribution was carried out on a limited scale through schools in Damascus, reaching 10,000 beneficiaries until in early 1957 the Government decided to discontinue this particular phase of the programme. School feeding might be revived once the milk conservation project becomes active.

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<sup>a/</sup> Powdered skim milk for this programme is included in the quantity shown for MCW

100. Meanwhile, the Government has proceeded to strengthen very substantially the school health services and by the end of 1957 had appointed to the various provinces thirty eight school medical officers and fifty health assistants. A further seven medical officers are to be assigned permanently to the school health service. A main school health centre has now been opened in Damascus, and it is the plan to provide one such main centre in each of the remaining provinces.

101. In regard to school gardening a number of gardens are operating successfully, but agreement has not been reached about UNICEF assistance. During 1957 the Government reorganized the training of agricultural teachers, for which a Ford Foundation grant of \$225,000 was given to the Ministry of Education. This will enable the Government to complete in 1958 a rural teachers' training college at Homs for three hundred trainees, of whom one hundred will graduate each year. UNICEF aid to the project is being held in abeyance until the Government has completed its review of the activities and is ready to establish a revised plan of operations for the school services project.

TURKEY

Total previous allocations: \$119,400  
First: October 1952  
Latest: April 1957  
(includes 3,882,908 lb. powdered skim milk)

102. Progress on this programme is reported in a recommendation for further aid submitted to the current Board session (E/ICEF/L.1161)

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EMERGENCY AID

EGYPT

Previous allocation: \$96,500  
(December 1956)

103. At the beginning of 1957 evacuees from the Port Said area started to return to that city, and by February all of the 90,000 had returned. Of these, 50,000 found themselves homeless or otherwise in need and it was to mothers and children in this group that the emergency assistance from UNICEF was given. Thus, 140 tons of skim milk powder which arrived in Port Said at the end of January was distributed to 15,000 mothers and children until the quantity was exhausted in September. Similarly, two million vitamin capsules reached 17,000 beneficiaries during the same period. The 60 tons of soap were given to the same beneficiaries at the rate of two cakes per month per recipient until October when the ration was doubled because soap from other sources was by that time exhausted. The remaining stock of soap from UNICEF will have been exhausted during the early part of 1958. The Fund also made available 30,000 blankets which were given to families in need at the rate of two blankets per family. During February to October, 22,722 blankets were thus issued and the balance was distributed in December.

104. By October 1957 there were still 15,000 persons without homes in Port Said accommodated in a camp or staying with friends and relatives. The Government, which is continuing a programme of aid in Port Said, had, by the autumn of 1957, constructed 4,436 dwellings and is planning to build a further 1,600 in order to provide new homes for all the remaining evacuees.

105. In order to reorganize the disrupted MCW services in Port Said, three vehicles and standard equipment and supplies were diverted to that city from the regular MCW programme elsewhere in the country.

JORDAN

Total previous allocations: \$1,167,700  
First: April 1952  
Latest: September 1957  
(including 6,660,185 lb. powdered skim milk)  
\$131,726 also transferred to this programme  
from allocation to Palestine refugees.

106. In the course of the year, the main commodities provided for this continuing programme included United States surplus dried milk, rice from Thailand, coconut oil from the Philippines, soap from Australia, and sugar from Poland. Part of these commodities are received as contributions in kind. Distribution has thus continued to approximately 50,000 mothers and children in the borderline villages in western Jordan. The Government has matched the aid given by UNICEF by supplying flour and pulses to the value of four thousand Jordan Dinars (US\$11,200) per year. UNRWA has agreed to continue making available its facilities for this programme, but since the storage space at the disposal of that Agency is limited and required for other purposes, it was arranged with the Government that warehouses in West Jordan with a total capacity of 600 tons of dried milk would be made available permanently to the borderline feeding project. An UNRWA staff member was also seconded to UNICEF in 1957 and has helped supervise the programme in co-operation with the field officers of the Ministry of Social Affairs.

107. The good collaboration of voluntary agencies in the implementation of this programme has continued in 1957. However, the very good medical and nutritional services previously rendered the programme by the British Save the Children's Fund team were lost when this team left Jordan in March due to the political disturbances at that time. Distribution will continue on the same scale in 1958 under the allocation approved by the Board last September.