

UNITED NATIONS - INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

April 12 1948

General Terms of Reference for Dr. Thomas Parran, Chief,
Mission to Far East

Initial technical field surveys for the International Children's Emergency Fund have, in general, been carried out for the following purposes:

- A. To inform the governments of the objectives, programme and policies of operation of the Fund's programme.
- B. To gather information on need for the type of programmes offered by the Fund, including statistical data and descriptive material.
- C. To observe the condition of children and learn about the programmes of health, feeding and welfare programmes provided by governments or by voluntary agencies.
- D. To take necessary steps towards the development of plans of operation and initiate negotiations with respect to the signing of an agreement between the Fund and the government on the conditions of operation of a programme under ICEF.

2. The resolution adopted by the United Nations Assembly in December 1946 specifies that it shall be the purpose of the Fund to give aid to children and adolescents in countries that were the victims of aggression in World War II and in countries that received assistance from UNRRA and to provide for child health generally, giving priority to countries that were the victims of aggression. The Executive Board of ICEF determined at its first meeting in January 1947 that certain priorities should be set up within these overall objectives, especially since the funds and supplies available to the Fund are insufficient to meet the total need. In order of priority, the Board placed first the programmes of feeding for children and adolescents and for mothers during pregnancy and the nursing period.

3. At later meetings of the Board increased emphasis has been given to allotments of funds for child health purposes and it has been determined that in this connection primary attention should be placed on the development of programmes for (a) the prevention of tuberculosis through the use of BCG

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vaccine, (b) the treatment of venereal disease in pregnant mothers and in children when such programmes could be undertaken as a part of a general venereal disease control programme, and (c) the training of health and welfare personnel to participate in the child feeding and child health and welfare programmes aided by the Fund's programme.

4. Other objectives approved by the Board early in the programme, but to date given little support, because of limitations of funds, were the provision of clothing and of medical supplies, the distribution of which appeared to be warranted to meet deficiencies resulting in serious illness among children.

5. The total amount of money set aside at this time for aiding children in the countries that you will visit is \$ 1,500,000. Clearly, this sum will meet only a small part of the need that exists. It is hoped, therefore, that by visiting a number of these countries you will be able to make a report on their relative needs for (a) food, (b) child health and welfare services, including the desirability of extending the BCG programme, and (c) training for personnel in the child health and child welfare fields. Because of the small amount of money available, it would seem desirable that you give special attention to the need for special demonstration programmes in child feeding, the control of tuberculosis, or training of personnel in the essentials of child care, nutrition, and the organisation and operation of programmes for the use of BCG.

6. In the course of your visits to countries it is hoped that you will be able to make contacts with the various government agencies responsible for child health services, school health, and school feeding services, the care of children orphaned or physically handicapped as a result of war and those requiring special day care or other types of residential care, such as training schools, special centres for mothers and young children, and family foster care. These would probably include at least the ministries of health, education, welfare, food and supplies. The plan for the operation of a programme to be aided by the Fund should be developed jointly by all the agencies of government concerned. In

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many European countries the development of the plan has been the responsibility of a coordinating committee or council representative of several government agencies. In connection with the negotiations necessary to reach agreements with respect to the conditions under which the Fund would operate in any country, it will obviously be necessary to confer with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the chief executives of the governments.

7. Since the Executive Board of the Fund is the body responsible for approving plans of operations in the various countries and for allocating funds on the basis of such approved plans, it will be important that the countries visited develop, if possible while you are there, concrete proposals for such plans of operation. At least, the general outline of proposals including (a) statements of the purpose and scope of programme, (b) methods of administration, including evidence of coordination of responsibility when divided among two or more agencies, (c) methods of control and proposals for safeguarding the use of supplies for the purpose for which they are granted, and (d) agreement to carry out the programme in accordance with the terms of the draft agreement to be signed with the Fund. Since the amount of an allocation to any country will not be known until the plan of operation is approved, it would be desirable that there be sufficient flexibility in the proposed plans so that appropriate adjustments may be made at the time of the Programme Committee meeting in Paris in June

8. Evidence of need for the proposed programme should be presented in terms of child population, mortality and morbidity rates, data with respect to extent and degree of malnutrition, numbers of children orphaned by the war or dependent on the government for other reasons, numbers of preschool and school children and pregnant and nursing mothers who are fed or receiving care of other types from government or from voluntary sources, number given health care, and so forth. If feeding programmes are proposed, complete information as to amounts, kinds, and caloric value of foods to be contributed by the government should be included in the plan.

Maurice Pate
Executive Director.