

CHAPTER XV

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

The UNICEF Executive Board held three sessions in 1954: from 1 to 9 March; from 9 to 17 September; and on 17 December. (For members of the Executive Board and subsidiary committees for 1954, see under APPENDIX II.) During the year the Executive Board approved allocations totalling \$17,138,175 as follows:

	Long-Range Aid	Emergency Aid
Africa	\$1,463,400	\$ 120,000
Asia	4,874,710	1,822,400
Eastern Mediterranean	1,413,140	494,300
Europe	927,600	—
The Americas	2,983,885	115,000
Assistance benefiting more than one region	315,000	—
	<u>\$11,977,735</u>	<u>\$2,551,700</u>
Total project aid	\$14,529,435	
Operational services	1,092,870	
Administration	1,515,870	
Grand Total	<u>\$17,138,175</u>	

Approximately 33 per cent of the aid approved in 1954 was for mass health programmes, 25 per cent for maternal and child welfare, 25 per cent for feeding and milk conservation and 17 per cent for emergency aid. Project aid was distributed among the various types of programmes as follows:

		Per Cent
Long-Range Aid		
Maternal and Child Welfare	\$ 3,708,091	26
Mass Health	4,566,944	31
Malaria/typhus control	\$2,213,600	15
Yaws/syphilis control	399,200	3
BCG vaccination and TB control	839,044	6

		Per Cent
Long-Range Aid		
Production of sera, antibiotics, vaccines	630,700	4
Other communicable disease control	484,400	3
Nutrition	3,702,700	26
Milk conservation	1,540,800	11
Long-range feeding	2,161,900	15
Total	<u>\$11,977,735</u>	<u>83</u>
Emergency Aid	<u>2,551,700</u>	<u>17</u>
Grand Total	<u>\$14,529,435</u>	<u>100</u>

For each dollar allocated by UNICEF in 1954, the assisted countries spent or committed on the average \$1.97, as compared with \$1.57 in the previous period.

The percentage distribution of long-range aid among areas was as follows: Africa, 11 per cent; Asia 46 per cent; Eastern Mediterranean, 13 per cent; Europe, 7 per cent; The Americas, 21 per cent; and projects benefiting more than one region, 2 per cent.

Geographic coverage of UNICEF aid was further expanded in 1954 with the approval for the first time of aid to 13 countries and territories, of which five are in Africa. At the close of the year the Fund was aiding 252 programmes in 88 countries and territories as follows:

	Countries	Programmes
Africa	20	31
Asia	21	79
Eastern Mediterranean	11	42
Europe	7	23
The Americas	29	77
	<u>88</u>	<u>252</u>

Of the 252 programmes, the largest number, 114, were mass health programmes, including 34 for tuberculosis prevention, 31 for malaria and typhus control, and 21 for yaws, bejel and syphilis control. Sixty-nine were maternal and

child welfare programmes for which UNICEF provided equipment and diet and drug supplements to maternal and child welfare centres, assistance in training of workers, and equipment for improving environmental sanitation, school health and health education. Of 57 programmes receiving aid in the field of nutrition, 36 were for long-range feeding and 21 for milk or other food conservation.

#### EMERGENCY AID

Of the total emergency aid approved in 1954, \$120,000 went to Africa (Tanganyika); \$1,822,400 to Asia (India, Republic of Korea, Pakistan, the Philippines and Vietnam); \$494,300 to the Eastern Mediterranean (Jordan) and \$115,000 to the Americas (Haiti). The greatest amount, almost \$900,000, went to India for maintaining food and drug stockpiles so that aid can be made available as soon as emergencies occur.

On three occasions in 1954, the Board voted emergency aid by mail poll to meet immediate needs. In April it voted \$53,000 to Iraq to provide milk, drugs, soap and insecticides following the Tigris flood disaster; in July it voted \$120,000 to Tanganyika to provide food for 100,000 women and children in a drought and famine area; and in October it voted \$115,000 to Haiti to provide milk and vitamin capsules for 100,000 children, following a hurricane disaster.

#### LONG-RANGE AID

The long-range aid approved in 1954 was divided, within each area, between different programmes as follows:

Africa. Sixty-four per cent for malaria control and 20 per cent for maternal and child welfare.

Asia. Forty-four per cent for maternal and child welfare, 12 per cent for BCG vaccination, 9 per cent for feeding and almost 8 per cent for yaws control.

Eastern Mediterranean. Forty-eight per cent for malaria control, 17 per cent for BCG vaccination, 12 per cent each for maternal and child welfare and milk conservation and 9 per cent for feeding.

Europe. Approximately half and half each for maternal and child welfare and milk conservation.

The Americas. Fifty-two per cent for feeding, 30 per cent for milk conservation and 15 per cent for maternal and child welfare.

#### BENEFICIARIES

More than 28 million children and nursing and pregnant mothers benefited in 1954 from the principal UNICEF-aided mass health and feeding programmes as compared with 21 million during the previous year.

The following were the numbers benefiting from the main types of aid provided by UNICEF in 1954: BCG Anti-tuberculosis Vaccination, 13,384,506 children vaccinated; Malaria Control, 7,240,000 children and mothers and a total of 14,478,000 persons protected with UNICEF DDT; Yaws Control, 1,500,000 children and mothers and a total of 2,972,993 persons treated; Trachoma Control, 678,900 children treated; Long-Range Feeding, the peak numbers of children and mothers receiving daily ration was 1,317,800; Emergency Feeding, the peak number of children and mothers receiving daily ration was 4,108,000.

Large numbers of mothers and children also received benefits from maternal and child welfare centres and clinics aided by UNICEF and by UNICEF-aided vaccine production plants; campaigns for the control of diphtheria, whooping cough, and leprosy; and milk-drying and pasteurization plants. When all the projected milk conservation plants are in full operation, they will provide free or low-cost milk to some four million children and mothers. Many times this number will benefit from the availability of safe milk.

#### MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE

More than half of the aid for maternal and child welfare in 1954 went to Asia. Two new types of programmes received aid for the first time, one for school services centring on health and nutrition in rural schools, and the other for environmental sanitation to improve the supply of safe water and excreta disposal.

Following the Board's decision in principle, in September 1953, to provide aid for the improvement of village water supplies, sewage disposal and related community health education as part of general maternal and child welfare programmes, a total of \$199,000 was approved in 1954 for six such projects, in

Burma, Ceylon, Nicaragua, North Borneo, Panama and Peru.

During its meetings in 1954 the Executive Board noted the great value of maternal and child welfare programmes over and above their provision of preventive health services: more and more the maternal and child welfare centres provide a basis for developing health and other community services in rural areas and help to consolidate the results of mass health campaigns. Up to the end of 1954 UNICEF provided equipment for almost 7,000 centres.

### MASS HEALTH

Assistance was voted for 56 mass health programmes, 18 for the first time and 38 which had previously received UNICEF help. The following types of project received aid during the year:

**Yaws Control.** Seven projects aided for the first time, three in the Western Pacific and three in the Caribbean area.

**BCG Anti-Tuberculosis Vaccination.** Nineteen campaigns received continuing aid, seven in Asia, eight in the Eastern Mediterranean and four in the Americas.

**Malaria Control.** Twelve campaigns received continuing aid, three in Africa, three in Asia, four in the Eastern Mediterranean and two in the Americas. The largest single programme allocation to be voted in 1954 was for \$815,000 to continue an extensive malaria control campaign in French West Africa, the Cameroons and Togoland.

**Trachoma Control.** Aid went to Egypt and Spain for the first time, and to Morocco and China (for Taiwan) to continue trachoma control work already under way with UNICEF aid.

**Leprosy Control.** The Board voted aid to the Philippines for leprosy control, the second such programme to receive the Fund's assistance.

A new emphasis on regional approaches is emerging in the pattern of UNICEF-assisted mass health programmes, as for example in malaria control in the Eastern Mediterranean and yaws control in the Western Pacific and the Caribbean.

### NUTRITION

Thirty-four nutrition projects received UNICEF aid during the year, 14 for the first

time and 20 previously aided. Twenty-seven were for child feeding and seven for milk conservation. In addition an allocation was approved for a project to be supervised by FAO to test the acceptability of fish flour as a food for children; in approving it the Executive Board noted that the financing of research is not properly a UNICEF function and that this exception was made on the basis of special conditions.

Dried milk allocations totalling 113 million pounds were approved during the year for distribution through the 27 feeding programmes and eight emergency aid programmes referred to above, and for distribution through maternal and child welfare centres. Availability through the United States surplus commodity programme of dried milk free or at low cost gave the opportunity for considerable expansion of school feeding programmes, particularly in the Americas.

### POLICY DEVELOPMENT

On recommendation of its Ad Hoc Policy Committee which met in February 1954, the Executive Board adopted or gave new emphasis to the following policies:

1. The trend toward longer term planning and more comprehensive projects will be further encouraged, and in exceptional circumstances the Board will consider allocations for periods up to five years where the government makes correspondingly long-term commitments, where there is a considerable promise of success, and where longer term UNICEF commitments would substantially strengthen the programme.

2. The Board should consider an entire project even though the proposed apportionment may be for only one stage of it. If the Board approves a project in principle, further requests for aid to that project will be given priority in order to help or perfect work already undertaken.

3. Under certain conditions, in connexion with maternal and child welfare or nutrition or other projects already approved by the Board, local costs for training and supervision of village and district workers may be paid by UNICEF in order to help governments lay a solid basis for carrying on by themselves at a later stage.

4. The Board's policy for UNICEF to pay in local currency certain stipends for instructors and trainees was expanded so that UNICEF may provide such stipends and salaries for instructors for "the full professional training" of workers engaged in UNICEF-aided projects.

5. The Board authorized the Executive Director to bring forward requests for travel and subsistence and allowances for national personnel engaged in field supervision of UNICEF-aided programmes.

6. Regional Directors were authorized to use sums up to \$1,000 for essential locally purchasable supplies or services when necessary to keep a going project from being hampered or delayed.

7. Freight costs, previously paid out of general freight account, are to be treated (beginning March 1954) as part of country allocations. The purpose of this change is to avoid a possible understatement of the value of aid provided by UNICEF.

#### JOINT UNICEF/WHO HEALTH POLICY COMMITTEE

The Joint Health Policy Committee, at its seventh session from 29 April to 1 May, gave particular attention to an analysis of the progress of various programmes from the standpoint of future planning. It discussed progress reports on campaigns to control yaws and venereal disease, tuberculosis, and trachoma and related diseases. It also considered certain aspects of aid for nutrition programmes affecting mothers, infants and young children.

#### FINANCES

The following 61 Governments contributed \$13,608,000 to UNICEF in 1954: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, British Guiana, Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China (Taiwan), Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaya, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Borneo, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sarawak, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Vatican State, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Of this group, seven Governments were contributing to UNICEF for the first time: British Guiana, Hong Kong, North Borneo, Panama, Paraguay, Sarawak, Syria. The largest contribution, \$8,300,000, was from the United States Government. On a per capita basis the ten largest Government contributors in 1954 were as follows: Brunei, \$0.1516; New Zealand, 0.1003; United States, 0.0511; Australia, 0.0510; Monaco, 0.0390; Canada, 0.0339; Liechtenstein, 0.0334; Switzerland, 0.0333; Thailand, 0.0318; Sarawak, 0.0276.

There has been a steady increase in the number of governments contributing to UNICEF each year since 1950 and, excepting 1954, a steady increase in the total amount of contributions. The decrease from 1953 to 1954 in the total of contributions was due primarily to the decrease in the United States Government contribution which was \$9,814,000 in 1953 and \$8,300,000 in 1954. Contributions from governments other than the United States increased from \$4,453,000 in 1953 to \$5,308,000 in 1954.

A number of governments made substantially larger contributions to UNICEF in 1954 than in the previous year, some of them, Australia, Colombia, Ecuador, Norway and the United Kingdom, doubling or more than doubling their previous contributions, and Bolivia, Denmark, Honduras, New Zealand and Turkey increasing their contributions by a third or a half or more.

UNICEF contributions from private sources in 1954 totalled \$461,000, of which \$192,000 came from the proceeds of fund-raising campaigns and the United Nations Day collections. The remaining \$269,000 came from individuals, private groups and a Halloween collection carried out by children in the United States.

UNICEF received \$70,000 from UNRRA residual assets in 1954 as compared with \$428,000 in 1953. Other income for the year amounted to \$905,000. The total income for the year from all sources was \$15,044,000.

#### CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES

Certain questions arose during 1953 and 1954 concerning the financing of international technical personnel employed on projects jointly aided by UNICEF and WHO. In 1953, the UNICEF Executive Board agreed, as an exception, to reimburse WHO for the costs of

WHO international personnel working on projects receiving UNICEF supplies. Following various discussions, the Seventh World Health Assembly in May agreed to pay half these costs during 1954. The UNICEF Board agreed to pay the remaining half, but expressed the hope that future budgets of WHO could be of such dimensions as to make full assumption of personnel costs possible.

(For a report by the Secretary-General concerning co-ordination between UNICEF and the various technical assistance programmes, see below under CONSIDERATION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL.)

#### FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES

The Sub-Committee on Fund Raising of the Programme Committee held its 13th and 14th meetings in February and November 1954. The Executive Director reported to the February meeting on fund-raising aspects of his recent trip to Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean, and at the November meeting Hernán Santa Cruz reported on his visit to 11 countries in Latin America which he had carried out as a joint mission on behalf of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and UNICEF.

At the request of the Sub-Committee on Fund Raising, the United Nations Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds wrote letters to 34 governments requesting their early consideration of contributions for 1954 in order to help UNICEF in its planning for the year. In September the Negotiating Committee invited representatives of 11 governments to meetings in order to solicit their financial support.

UNICEF National Committees, which play an important part in securing support for UNICEF programmes, had been organized or were in the process of organizing in 27 countries at the close of 1954: 12 in Europe, six in the Eastern Mediterranean area, five in Asia, two in Australasia, one in North America and one in Latin America.

In some countries these Committees have engaged in fund-raising campaigns on behalf of UNICEF and in some of the UNICEF-assisted countries they have raised funds for local child welfare programmes and have taken part in the planning and carrying out of the UNICEF-assisted projects.

#### CO-OPERATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Membership of the UNICEF Non-Governmental Organizations Committee grew to 50 by the end of 1954. The Committee has established sub-committees to consider specific matters related to UNICEF activities and has broadened its study of questions relating to UNICEF work which are particularly appropriate for voluntary effort.

#### CONSIDERATION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Council had before it at its 18th session two reports of the Executive Board of UNICEF following its sessions in September 1953 and March 1954. It also considered a report by the Secretary-General on programme co-ordination between UNICEF, the regular and technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, as requested by the General Assembly in October 1953 (resolution 802(VIII)).

The Executive Board's two reports among other things described UNICEF's achievements during 1953. The report of the Secretary-General was a comprehensive descriptive summary of the mechanisms of co-ordination at all levels, from particular projects to over-all agency planning. It dealt with programme co-ordination as distinct from financial relations and the co-ordination of administrative services and facilities. The report covered, in particular, co-ordination of the activities of UNICEF and those of the United Nations in family and child welfare, and of WHO and FAO.

During the Council's discussion, members expressed their appreciation of the valuable humanitarian work accomplished by UNICEF with resources which were relatively modest. A number of representatives, including those of Australia, France, the United Kingdom and the United States, welcomed the Secretary-General's first report on programme co-ordination. The representative of the United States, however, declared that the report contained no evaluation of the co-ordination procedures, indicating where improvement might be desirable and where adjustments might be recommended. The representative of France felt that such reports should not be submitted to

the Council every year, but only when the Council or the Secretary-General considered it appropriate.

On 1 July the Council unanimously adopted a revised joint draft resolution submitted by Australia, Belgium, Egypt, France, India, the United States and Yugoslavia. By it, the Council noted the reports before it with satisfaction; stated that further efforts were desirable to familiarize the public with the needs of children and the work of UNICEF; invited all States to continue their efforts to expand the resources of UNICEF; and asked the Secretary-General to supplement not later than 1956 his report on co-ordination, paying particular attention to the further development of co-ordinating devices to assure solution of specific problems.

#### CONSIDERATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At the Assembly's ninth session the Third Committee considered the work of UNICEF during its general discussion of the report of the Economic and Social Council. Representatives taking part in the Assembly debate paid tribute to UNICEF, declaring that it was an excellent example of international co-operation and that through its work the lives of millions of children had been saved and health conditions in many areas of the world improved. Many representatives, including those of Belgium, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Iraq and Yugoslavia, spoke of the achievements made in their own countries with UNICEF help.

Several representatives, including, among others, those of Ecuador, Pakistan, the United States, Uruguay and Yugoslavia, commended the Assembly decision to continue UNICEF for an indefinite period. Such a decision, stated the representative of Pakistan, was an essential

condition of any child health programme and of the training projects so necessary to under-developed countries. The change in the title of UNICEF, declared the representative of the United States, reflected the trend towards the development of permanent services for children, especially in under-developed countries.

The representatives of Belgium, Israel and the United Kingdom considered it encouraging that government matching of UNICEF aid had amounted to 157 per cent of UNICEF allocations from the inception of the Fund to the end of 1953. The representatives of Ecuador, India and the United States, among others, spoke of the judicious use made of available funds. In the view of the representative of India, the UNICEF budget proved that substantial results could be achieved with limited resources, if they were used wisely and economically.

The low administrative costs of UNICEF were also commended by, for instance, the representatives of France and Mexico. The representatives of Iraq and Yugoslavia considered that the slightly increased administrative expenditures were justified by the extension of the activities of UNICEF and by the fact that some of them related to programmes of more than a year's duration. The representative of Pakistan hoped that administrative costs would be kept at a low level.

The General Assembly on 14 December 1954 unanimously adopted a resolution congratulating UNICEF on its work, stating that further efforts were desirable to familiarize the public with the needs of children and the work of UNICEF, and inviting all States Members and non-members of the United Nations to continue their efforts to expand the resources of UNICEF.

#### UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S DAY

During the Third Committee's debate on UNICEF two proposals were submitted by India and Uruguay concerning the question of establishing a world children's day. The proposals were later withdrawn in favour of a joint Indian-Uruguayan draft resolution, under which the General Assembly would, among other things, recommend that, with effect from

1956, an international world children's day should be instituted by all countries to be observed as a day of world-wide fraternity and understanding between children.

The joint draft resolution was supported by several representatives, including those of Afghanistan, Burma, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Israel, Poland,

Saudi Arabia and the USSR. In favour of the institution of a world children's day it was stated that it would help to affirm the concept of responsibility to children, a concept which was implicit in the United Nations Charter and had been developed not only in the resolutions relating to the work of UNICEF but also in the work of many other United Nations bodies. A world children's day would also draw attention to such important questions as the place of children in society, and governmental, social and community responsibilities towards them. It would deepen world fraternity and understanding between children themselves and help to give them a better appreciation of the international ideas proclaimed in the Charter, and would assist in heightening their own sense of constructive participation in society. Also, it would draw attention to the activities and financial needs of UNICEF and other organizations working on behalf of children. Adoption of the draft resolution, it was maintained, would result in a gradual transfer of the observance of world children's day from the national to the international level.

There was some discussion as to whether one particular day should be observed by all countries or whether individual governments should set aside a suitable day. The representatives of Israel, Syria and the USSR, for example, considered that each country should be given the freedom to choose the most appropriate day; this, in their opinion, would be the most practical method. The representative of Uruguay stated that what he had in mind was a single Universal Children's Day. That did not mean that the date was to be set at the Assembly's ninth session. The feeling of the celebration, on whatever date it fell, should be universal, embracing all the children in the world, not merely those of the country in which it was held; otherwise, there would be no point in the United Nations intervening, when a great many countries already had their own children's days. The representative of India stated that a single set day would have been desirable but it was not feasible; each country could have its own world children's day, international in feeling and in scope.

The part played by certain non-governmental organizations, particularly the International

Union for Child Welfare, in promoting the idea of a world children's day was recognized with appreciation. Denmark, Norway and Sweden submitted an amendment to the Indian draft resolution designed to avoid establishing another world children's day in competition with that already inaugurated by the Union. While stating that the amendment would also apply to the joint draft resolution, the sponsors withdrew it in view of subsequent changes in the joint draft and statements made by the Director-General of UNICEF. The representative of Sweden believed that the world children's day should not be a holiday, but that the best way of helping children would be to raise funds for UNICEF by donating one day's pay. A number of representatives, including those of Afghanistan, Poland, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States, thought it inadvisable to mention a specific organization by name in the draft resolution and an amendment by Afghanistan to delete the reference to the International Union for Child Welfare was adopted by 28 votes to 7, with 18 abstentions.

Costa Rica submitted amendments to the joint draft resolution to provide, among other things, for an annual meeting of Member and non-member States, preferably on world children's day, to pledge contributions to UNICEF. This, he said, might provide UNICEF with additional security. The part of the Costa Rican amendments referring to the pledging conference was, however, rejected by 25 votes to 14, with 14 abstentions, by the Third Committee.

The sponsors of the draft resolution accepted oral amendments proposed by Afghanistan, Australia, France, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and Uruguay. The joint draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by the Third Committee by 47 votes to none, with 4 abstentions, and by the General Assembly on 14 December by 48 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

By this resolution the Assembly recommended that, with effect from 1956, a Universal Children's Day should be instituted in all countries, as a day of world-wide fraternity and understanding between children and activity devoted to promoting the ideals and objectives of the Charter and the welfare of children and furthering United Nations efforts for children. The Assembly suggested that the day be observed

on the date and in the way each government considered appropriate and invited organizations to co-operate actively in its observance. It asked the Executive Board of UNICEF in co-opera-

tion with UNESCO to take steps in accordance with the resolution and include in its annual reports a report on the progress achieved.

## DOCUMENTARY NOTES

For events prior to 1954, see Y.U.N., 1953, pp. 461-68.

### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL — 18TH SESSION

E/2518, E/2572. Reports of Executive Board of UNICEF.

E/2601. Programme co-ordination between UNICEF, the regular and technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Report by the Secretary-General.

### PLENARY MEETINGS, 794, 795.

E/L.610. United States draft resolution (replaced by revised joint draft resolution).

E/L.611. Belgium, Egypt, France, India, Yugoslavia joint draft resolution (replaced by revised joint draft).

E/L.611/Rev.1. Australia, Belgium, Egypt, France, India, United States, Yugoslavia revised joint draft resolution (adopted).

RESOLUTION 543(XVIII), as submitted jointly by seven Powers, E/L.611/Rev.1, adopted unanimously by the Council on 1 July.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY — NINTH SESSION

A/2686. Report of the Economic and Social Council covering period, 6 August 1953 to 6 August 1954.

THIRD COMMITTEE, meetings 586-593.

A/C.3/L.433 and Add.1, 2. Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Philippines, United Kingdom, Yugoslavia joint draft resolution (adopted by 45 votes to none).

A/2829. Report of Third Committee.

### PLENARY MEETING, 512.

RESOLUTION 835(IX), as recommended by Third Committee, A/2829, adopted unanimously by the Assembly on 14 December.

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling that by its resolution 802(VIII) of 6 October 1953 it decided to continue the activities of the United Nations Children's Fund without time limits,

"Taking note of resolution 543(XVIII) adopted by the Economic and Social Council after consideration of the reports made by the Executive Board of UNICEF on the work of the Fund,

"Being of the opinion that the work of UNICEF is developing with success in the various parts of the world, especially in under-developed areas,

"1. Congratulates the United Nations Children's Fund on its work;

"2. Considers that further efforts are desirable to

familiarize the public with the needs of children and with the work of UNICEF;

"3. Invites all States Members and non-members of the United Nations to continue their efforts to expand the resources of UNICEF."

### UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY

THIRD COMMITTEE, meetings 596-599.

A/C.3/L.434. Uruguay draft resolution (replaced by joint draft resolution).

A/C.3/L.439. Costa Rica amendments to draft resolution by Uruguay (replaced by amendments to joint draft).

A/C.3/L.436. India draft resolution (replaced by joint draft resolution).

A/C.3/L.438. Denmark, Norway, Sweden joint amendment to draft resolution by India (withdrawn).

A/C.3/L.444. India and Uruguay joint draft resolution (adopted, as amended, by 47 votes to none, with 4 abstentions).

A/C.3/L.445. Costa Rica amendments to joint draft (first amendment adding final paragraph to preamble [for text, see adopted resolution, quoted below], adopted by 18 votes to 13, with 21 abstentions; second amendment, regarding pledging conference, rejected by 25 votes to 14, with 14 abstentions).

A/C.3/L.446. Afghanistan amendments to joint draft (first amendment, to delete reference to International Union for Child Welfare, adopted by 28 votes to 7, with 18 abstentions; second amendment to delete phrase in operative paragraph 3 calling on Secretary-General to take steps "to establish children's day", accepted by sponsors of joint draft).

France oral amendments: (1) to substitute in preamble "certain non-governmental organizations" for "the International Union of Child Welfare" (not voted on because of adoption of Afghanistan amendment); (2) to reword operative paragraph 3 (paragraph 4 of adopted resolution) to provide for co-operation with UNESCO (adopted by 51 votes to none, with 2 abstentions).

Australia oral amendment to provide for progress reports in annual report rather than special report to Assembly's 10th session (accepted by sponsors of joint draft).

Sweden oral drafting amendment and Saudi Arabia oral drafting amendment (accepted by sponsors of joint draft).

A/2829. Report of Third Committee.

PLENARY MEETING, 512.

RESOLUTION 836(IX), as recommended by Third Committee, A/2829, adopted by the Assembly on 14 December by 48 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

"The General Assembly,

"Considering that the obligations of the United Nations to succeeding generations can only be fulfilled by increased efforts on behalf of the children of the world, who are the citizens of tomorrow, and that the world-wide observance of a children's day would contribute to human solidarity and co-operation between nations,

"Believing that the objectives of the Charter can best be realized if they inspire and are shared by the children of the world,

"Recalling the increased interest in the work of and the support given to the United Nations Children's Fund and its acceptance as an integral part of the United Nations, and that various resolutions relating to children adopted by the General Assembly have shown the Organization's concern for children in all parts of the world,

"Considering the increasing attention given by States and peoples to a better observance of the rights of mothers and children, as well as the action of civic, social, professional and cultural institutions, national, international and regional, on behalf of children,

"Expressing its appreciation of the work done by governmental and voluntary organizations for the

children of the world, including the observance in a certain number of countries of a Universal Children's Day,

"Considering that the observance of Universal Children's Day should be used for a concrete and effective expression of the support of Governments for the purposes of UNICEF,

"1. Recommends that, with effect from 1956, a Universal Children's Day shall be instituted by all countries, to be observed as a day of world-wide fraternity and understanding between children and of activity devoted to the promotion of the ideals and objectives of the Charter and the welfare of the children of the world, and to the strengthening and broadening of the efforts made by the United Nations in favour and on behalf of all the children of the world;

"2. Suggests to the Governments of all States that Universal Children's Day be observed on the date and in the way which each considers appropriate;

"3. Also invites the cultural, professional, trade-union, workers' and social welfare organizations for men and women, to support and co-operate actively in the observance of Universal Children's Day;

"4. Requests the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to take steps in accordance with the present resolution and to include in its annual reports a report on progress achieved in accordance with the above recommendations."