

do so, for supplies received—an obligation which their respective spokesmen at Atlantic City readily and willingly accepted. On the other hand, it was also agreed that “when a member Government considers that it is not in a position to pay, the Director-General, in consultation with the member Government involved and on the advice of the appropriate Committee or sub-committee of the Council, shall determine whether the Government or country is not in a position to pay for relief and rehabilitation supplies and services.” The Director-General, finally, is directed to submit to the Council an annual administrative budget, and programme of operations and all financial transactions are to be subject to careful review by a Committee on Financial Control and to an annual audit. It should be pointed out in view of some apparent misunderstanding that the total “turn-over” of UNRRA’s operations may, in effect, greatly exceed the estimated maximum fund of \$2,500,000,000 which will be made available from national contributions, according as the liberated countries find themselves able to pay for goods supplied or to provide relief requirements from their own production.

ORGANIZATION

The success of UNRRA will clearly depend to a very large extent on the efficiency with which it is administered, and particularly on the efficiency with which it goes about the business of securing supplies and either undertakes itself or supervises the distribution of such supplies amongst the needy populations of the liberated countries. The calibre of the Administration’s personnel is, therefore, a matter of first-rate importance.

The Administration, it was agreed, should recruit a staff of highly competent officers and employees who would have the status of truly international civil servants. To attain a staff of this character the Council recommended that recruitment should be upon as wide a geographic basis as possible and that member Governments should “assist the Director-General in securing a properly qualified staff by making available to the Administration such persons in their own Civil service as the Director-General might invite to join the staff of the Administration.” It was further agreed that UNRRA should train some of its own field-workers and that the fullest utilization should be made of the men and women now serving in the Armed Forces of the United Nations. To assist and advise the Director-General the Council made provision at Atlantic City for the establishment of several Standing and Technical Committees, including a Regional Committee for Europe and another for the Far East. New Zealand was made a member of the latter Committee, as well as of the Committee on Supplies, which it is anticipated will prove to be the most important Committee of the Council. Among the functions assigned to the Committee on Supplies are:

- (1) To advise the Council, the Central Committee, and the Director-General on general policies regarding the provision, financing, and transport of supplies;
- (2) To discuss with the Director-General broad programmes for securing the provision of supplies, as such programmes affect the supplying countries;
- (3) To co-operate with established inter-governmental supply and shipping agencies regarding supply policies and, when necessary, to make recommendations to implement the actions of such agencies and to assure the availability of required supplies;
- (4) To co-operate with established inter-governmental and governmental agencies in efforts to increase production and the availability of supplies;
- (5) To co-operate with the Director-General and the inter-governmental supply and shipping agencies concerned, so that as between contributing countries their supplies and services shall be drawn upon in an equitable manner; and that any necessary financial adjustments among them may be arranged;
- (6) To nominate two of its members who with one member of the Committee on Financial Control shall constitute a sub-committee to advise the Director-General regarding recipient countries’ capacity to pay in foreign exchange for relief supplies;
- (7) To consider whether there are unjustifiable differences in the valuation placed by the contributing countries upon the supplies and services purchased by or made available to the Administration, and to make necessary recommendations regarding the adjustment of such valuations.

Technical Advisory Committees on Agriculture, Displaced Persons, Health, Industrial Rehabilitation and Welfare were also set up, the Council recommending that such Committees should be relatively small groups of experts selected solely for their special competence and familiarity with the questions with which they are to deal. A Standing Committee on Financial Control was also created with wide powers to advise the Council on all financial matters within the competency of the Administration.

Numerous recommendations were drafted with respect to such problems as the repatriation of displaced persons, medical, health, and welfare services, agricultural and industrial rehabilitation; relations with voluntary relief agencies; and other inter-governmental organizations.

Among other points of importance which arose at the Conference was the question of the scale on which relief should be provided. It was realized that any attempt to lay down uniform standards equally applicable to the Far East and to the different countries of Europe would lead to endless difficulties. The scales adopted by the Leith-Ross Committee, however, were accepted as a most valuable guide. The Leith-Ross Committee had worked on the basis that relief should aim at supplying the pre-war standard of food, clothing, and other necessities of life or the British ration whichever was the lower.