(4) Seeds

Considering the importance of ensuring that shortage of suitable seeds should not limit the planting programmes of any country, the Committee urges all Governments, both importers and exporters of seeds, to co-operate in providing adequate quantities of suitable seed at the necessary dates. To ensure that supplies are available, importing countries must notify their requirements as early as possible. The Committee further urges IEFC to inquire from Governments the extent to which grain-seed stocks have been consumed as food in the present emergency and to consult with Governments on ways of immediately replacing such stocks, if necessary, on a loan or exchange basis. It further recommends that priorities should be given to the transportation of seeds so that they reach farmers in time for seeding and planting.

(5) Fats

The Committee has reviewed the sources of supply of fats, whether of vegetable, animal, or marine origin. It assumes that the scarcity of feeding-stuffs will inevitably result in a shortage of animal fats continuing through 1947–48. It notes the heavy fall in export supplies of vegetable fats, particularly from Far Eastern sources. It has been informed also of the disappointing results of the recent whaling season and of the shortage of factory ships. In order to secure all possible action of increased fat-supplies for 1947–48, the Committee RECOMMENDS—

(a) That attention of the appropriate authorities in Far Eastern territories should be called to the need for great efforts to expand the exportable supplies of fats and oils, and in this connection to the need for rapidly improving transportation facilities and for providing a larger volume of consumer goods;

(b) That the authorities responsible for oil-seed-producing territories in Africa should give urgent attention to increasing the flow of consumer goods, especially cotton textiles, in order to stimulate a greater output of oil-seeds;

(c) That countries having supplies of cotton-seed should develop programmes for using a larger proportion of the supply for the extraction of oil;

(d) That, in order to increase supplies of marine oils during the period of the emergency, the Governments signatory to the International Whaling Agreement should (i) ensure a rapid increase in the number of factory ships and other equipment; (ii) seriously consider modifying the said Agreement in ways which will facilitate more abundant catches; and (iii) co-operate in the provision of technical personnel and equipment in order to obtain the maximum increase in all waters where whaling is permitted.

(6) Dairy Products, Meat, and Eggs

The Committee realizes that the shortage of feed-supplies will make it especially important for live-stock policies to be carefully conceived. It will not be possible to meet the world's demand for live-stock products in 1947–48. The Committee therefore RECOMMENDS—

(a) That dairy cattle producing milk used for general human consumption should have first priority in the allocation of available feed-supply, owing to the nutritional importance of milk; and

(b) That the remaining supplies of feed should be so distributed as to secure the maximum output of live-stock products, taking into account needs of economic rehabilitation and the geographic and other circumstances of each country.