

there has been a separate pledging conference for each special programme.) States which are not members of the United Nations or one of the Specialized Agencies would be invited to attend this pledging meeting.

When this matter came before the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee, considerable opposition to the idea of a joint pledging meeting became evident, particularly in relation to the Children's Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. Because of this, the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on February 27, 1957 was a modified version of the original recommendations of the Negotiating Committee. The final resolution recognized the need to change the existing procedure for obtaining voluntary contributions for the two programmes (UNRWA and UNREF) which are consistently under-subscribed, but decided to retain the present fund raising system in the cases of the Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Expanded Programme for Technical Assistance (ETAP). During the twelfth session of the General Assembly, an *ad hoc* committee of the whole Assembly will be convened, under the chairmanship of the President of the session, to which states which are not members of the United Nations but are members of one or more of the Specialized Agencies would be invited, for the purpose of announcing their pledges to the two refugee programmes. Agreement was also reached on February 27 on the composition of a new Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds which will serve from the adjournment of the eleventh session to the close of the twelfth session, and consist of representatives from the following nine countries: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, France, Lebanon, New Zealand, Pakistan, United Kingdom and United States.

System of Travel and Subsistence Allowances

Over a period of years the system of travel and subsistence allowances to members of United Nations organs and subsidiary organs had been covered by a series of resolutions. It therefore seemed desirable to have a new resolution which would consolidate the existing rules and apply uniform rates to all bodies under similar circumstances. The Secretary-General had been asked to study the question and submit a report on it; his report was carefully reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and later referred to the Fifth Committee. The General Assembly then adopted a resolution on December 7, 1956, giving effect to the recommendations of the Fifth Committee. This resolution, with effect from January 1, 1957, authorized the payment, out of United Nations funds, of travel and subsistence expenses of members of organs or subsidiary organs who serve in their individual personal capacity, and of a member of a board, commission or committee, and of a person who serves as rapporteur, chairman or an expert, regardless of whether the person serves in his individual personal capacity or as a representative of a government. It also authorized the payment of travel, but not subsistence, expenses of not more than five representatives or alternate representatives from any one member state to regular sessions of the General Assembly, and one from each member state to a special session of the General Assembly. The resolution authorized similar payments for one representative from each member state who was attending a meeting of the functional or regional