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UNITED NATIONS CONCILIATION COMMISSION FOR PALESTINE

FUNCTIONS AND COMPOSITION OF THE
TECHNICAL MISSION ON REFUGEES

(Note by the Secretariat)

A. FUNCTIONS (TERMS OF REFERENCE)

- 1) To undertake immediate steps to determine, as precisely as possible, the number of refugees, their places of origin, means of livelihood, and such other information of a factual nature as might be pertinent to the ultimate repatriation, resettlement and rehabilitation of the refugees.
- 2) To study and recommend to the Commission a practicable method of determining, at the appropriate time, which refugees desire to return to their former homes and which do not.
- 3) To study and recommend to the Commission practicable projects for providing immediate work relief for refugees under the auspices of the several states concerned.
- 4) To determine through technical surveys and investigations the areas in the countries concerned which could be developed to provide an economic base for the resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees dispersed from to their former homes; and to assemble such information of a similar character, based on previous studies, as may be available from the Governments of the states concerned.

B. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION

- 1) Because of the highly technical nature of the tasks to be undertaken, selection of personnel should be made on the basis of individual competence and technical qualifications, with only such consideration of nationality as is given normally in the creation of all United Nations bodies.
- 2) The mission should be regarded as a "task force" created to produce specific results by scientific methods in the shortest possible time. Within the general framework of the directives of the Commission, the mission should be under the immediate supervision of a director or chief, who would have authority to select such other personnel as might be required for performance of the job. The director should report to the Commission through the Principal Secretary; all major staff appointments would be made with the approval of the Commission and the Principal Secretary.
- 3) In approximate terms, the staff of the mission might include the following:
 - (a) Director or chief.
 - (b) Deputy for statistical surveys (see point; one and two of functions).
 - (c) Deputy for technical surveys (see points three and four of functions).
 - (d) Five to ten statistical field workers trained in social service placement, census-taking and similar activities. (Cooperation with UNRPR and affiliated organizations would be assumed.)
 - (e) Five to ten technical field workers trained in agricultural sciences, irrigation engineering, soil conservation and similar activities.
 - (f) Three secretaries, six clerk-stenographers.

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