

GENERAL COMMITTEE

RESTRICTED
Com.Gen./SR.40
3 September 1949
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SUMMARY RECORD OF A MEETING
BETWEEN THE GENERAL COMMITTEE AND THE
DELEGATIONS OF THE ARAB STATES

held in Lausanne on Saturday,
3 September 1949, at 12 noon

Present: Mr. de la Tour du Pin (France) - Chairman
Mr. Yenisey (Turkey)
Mr. Rockwell (U.S.A.)

Dr. Azcárate - Principal Secretary

Mr. Abdel Chafi El Labbane - Representative of
Egypt

Mr. Edmond Roch - Representative of the
Hashemite Jordan
Kingdom

Mr. Ahmad Choukairi - Representative of
Syria

Transmission of draft terms of reference for a mixed working
group on Arab orange groves.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the General Committee had convened the present meeting for the purpose of submitting to the Arab delegations a draft document which had already been presented to the Israeli delegation (see Com.Gen./SR.39). The question of the condition of the Arab orange groves had occupied the Commission's attention since the matter had first been presented to it by the Arab delegations in their memorandum of 18 May. The Technical Committee on Refugees had made a tour of inspection of the groves, but the Commission felt that another body should now examine the question more fully on the spot. The Commission therefore proposed to establish a mixed working group, composed of one Israeli member and one Arab member, under the chairmanship of a neutral person, and had approved the draft terms of reference which were now being submitted to the Arab delegations. The General Committee had requested the Israeli delegation to study the document and transmit it to its Government for comments or suggestions, and would be glad to receive similar comments, both on the principle and on the drafting, from the Arab delegations at a meeting the following week.

Speaking for all the Arab delegations, Mr. LABBANE (Egypt) thanked the Commission and the General Committee for the initiative they had taken in this matter, and expressed the agreement in principle of all the Arab delegations. In accordance with the Chairman's request, he would transmit a copy of the document to the representative of Lebanon, who was not able to be present at the meeting. The Arab delegations would be glad to comment in detail on the document at a meeting the following Tuesday morning.

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