

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(89) 664 final

Brussels, 19 December 1989

**Proposal for a  
COUNCIL DECISION**

on the conclusion of the Convention between the  
European Economic Community and the United Nations  
Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)  
concerning aid to refugees in the countries of the Near East

**(presented by the Commission)**

## Explanatory Memorandum

The Commission made proposals to the Council in May 1989 (1) for a mandate to open negotiations for the renewal of the Convention between the EEC and UNRWA, which is due to expire on 31 December 1989.

In accordance with the decision of the General Affairs Council of 3 October 1989, the Commission negotiated on 13 October 1989 with UNRWA the text of the proposed new EEC/UNRWA Convention for the period 1990/1992.

As compared with the current Convention the main changes in the proposed text, in conformity with the directives for negotiation, are as follow :

The cash contribution towards the cost of UNRWA's education and health programmes (including the supplementary feeding programme) shall be ecu 25.4 million for 1990, ecu 26.7 million for 1991 and ecu 28 million for 1992 (Article 2, para 1). The inclusion of a specific yearly amount for the supplementary feeding programme is also new, as are its explicit inclusion in the health programme and the inclusion of a separate quantity for the health programme. This is also reflected in articles 1, 2, 3, 2.4, 3.2 and 3.3.

UNRWA are happy with the form and the content of the proposed text and they are ready to sign the Convention as soon as possible.

The financial implications of the action proposed are set out in the financial annex.

### Action proposed

The Commission therefore proposes that the Council adopt :

- 1) the Convention between the European Economic Community and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, attached, and
- 2) the decision concluding that Convention, also attached.

**COUNCIL DECISION**

**of**

**on the conclusion of the Convention between the  
European Economic Community and the United Nations  
Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)  
concerning aid to refugees in the countries of the Near East**

**THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,**

**Article 2**

Questions relating to the execution of the Community programme of food aid to UNRWA shall be governed by the procedure defined in Regulation (EEC) N° 3972/86 or, if appropriate, by any regulation on food aid repealing and replacing it.

**Article 3**

The President of the Council is hereby authorized to designate the persons empowered to sign the Convention in order to bind the Community.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council,

The President

CONVENTION  
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND  
THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY  
FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES (UNRWA)  
CONCERNING AID TO REFUGEES  
IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE NEAR EAST

## ARTICLE 1

Desirous of continuing its aid to Palestine Refugees, the European Economic Community (hereinafter referred to as "the Community") hereby concludes this Convention with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (hereinafter referred to as "UNRWA") in order to confirm its commitment to a programme of aid to UNRWA. This aid shall take the form of contributions in kind or in cash extending over a three-year period for use under the UNRWA education, health and feeding programmes.

## ARTICLE 2

1. The Community shall pay to UNRWA annually a cash contribution towards the cost of the education and health programmes, including the supplementary feeding programme. The size of this contribution shall be: ecu 21 million in 1990, ecu 22 million in 1991 and ecu 23 million in 1992 for the education programme; ecu 1 million in 1990, ecu 2 million in 1991 and ecu 3 million in 1992 for the health programme; and ecu 3.4 million in 1990, ecu 2.7 million in 1991 and ecu 2.0 million in 1992 for the supplementary feeding programme (which is a part of the health programme). The distribution of these amounts within the health programme (including the supplementary feeding programme) will be amenable to adjustment each year depending on evidence of real needs.
2. UNRWA shall send the Community each year a report on the use made of the Community contribution. UNRWA shall also provide the Community with all the documentation relating to the execution of the education and health programmes, including the supplementary feeding programme; the detailed accounts of expenditure; and budgetary estimates of future expenditure and the yearly statistics of the UNRWA Departments of Education and Health.
3. UNRWA shall inform the Community of any significant changes planned for the education or health services provided by the Agency.
4. In the event of any significant changes in the education or health services provided by UNRWA during the period of validity of this Convention, the Community reserves the right to give its approval to the use made of the funds it is making available to UNRWA.

## ARTICLE 3

### Aid for the feeding programmes

1. The Community shall contribute in kind or in cash to the various UNRWA feeding programmes (the programme for distribution of rations to special hardship cases, the feeding in training centres programme and the supplementary feeding programme).
2. The size and form of the Community contribution to these programmes and the conditions on which aid is granted shall be determined by the Community each year in the framework of its food aid programmes, on the basis of the requests submitted by UNRWA, with the exception of the supplementary feeding programme (included within the health programme) which will amount to ecu 3.4 million in 1990, ecu 2.7 million in 1991, and ecu 2.0 million in 1992, subject to yearly adjustments as specified in article 2.1.

3. The Community shall pay the following contributions in cash to UNRWA for the feeding programmes :

- a sum as a contribution to the operating costs of the supplementary feeding programme, as indicated,
- a sum for the purchase of products on the Community market. However, in the event of an emergency or non-availability on the Community market or in other exceptional cases after agreement by the Community, the products concerned may be purchased in the developing countries or on the local market,
- a specific sum per tonne of each product received or purchased by UNRWA under the programme for distribution of rations to special hardship cases and the feeding in training centres programme, as a contribution to transport and distribution costs.

4. UNRWA shall send the Community in April of each year a report on the operation of the feeding programmes, indicating in particular the number, category and location of recipients and the services provided, the cost of the programmes and the use made of Community contributions in kind and in cash.

#### ARTICLE 4

##### Information

UNRWA shall take all reasonable steps to inform the Palestine refugees and the authorities of the host countries of the aid received from the Community and from its Member States.

#### ARTICLE 5

UNRWA shall give every facility to any persons nominated by the Community for the purpose of following the Agency's use of the Community's aid<sup>(1)</sup>. UNRWA shall also provide such supplementary information as may reasonably be requested by the persons so nominated.

#### ARTICLE 6

Any questions arising out of this Convention shall be settled by consultation between the two parties at the request of either party.

#### ARTICLE 7

##### Duration of the Convention

This Convention shall cover a period of three calendar years (1990, 1991 and 1992).

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(1) The checks will be carried out principally by the Commission Delegates in the various countries concerned.

ARTICLE 8

This Convention is drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish languages, each version being equally authentic.

Done at Brussels,

For the United Nations Relief and  
Works Agency for Palestine  
Refugees (UNRWA)

On behalf of the Council  
of the European Communities



## FINANCIAL ANNEX

### 1. Relevant budgetary lines

Food aid programme : Budgetary lines within Chapter 92

Cash contribution : Article 926 - Expenses resulting from the  
EEC/UNRWA Convention  
Article 959 - Supplementary aid to UNRWA  
(Education and health programmes).

### 2. Description of action

Establishment of a new Convention between the EEC and UNRWA for the allocation of food aid in kind and in cash for the Agency's feeding programmes and a cash contribution for the UNRWA education and health programmes (including the supplementary feeding programme).

### 3. Legal base

Article 235 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.

### 4. Financial Implications

Cash contribution for the Education and Health Programmes  
(including the supplementary feeding programme).

The contribution to the UNRWA education and health programmes (including the supplementary feeding programme) shall be ecu 25.4 million for 1990, ecu 26.7 million for 1991 and ecu 28 million for 1992, in accordance with the decision of the General Affairs Council of 3 October 1989.

#### Contribution to Feeding Programmes

The size and content of the aid to UNRWA for the feeding programmes (with the exception of the supplementary feeding programme, already quantified in the text of the Convention), will be decided, as in the past, following the procedure defined in Council Regulation (EEC) 3972/86.<sup>(1)</sup>



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# DOCUMENTS

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