

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Agenda]

SPKR[Hohenfellner] MS[Austria] FCT[Chairman] LANG[1]

ITEM[Adoption of the Agenda.]

TXT[Adoption of the agenda

Foodstuffs and delivery of foodstuffs: Security Council resolutions 661 (1990), paragraph 3 (c), and 666 (1990) (continued)

Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman

The agenda was adopted.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Procedure]

SPKR[Hohenfellner] MS[Austria] FCT[Chairman] LANG[1]

ITEM[Foodstuffs and delivery of foodstuffs: Security Council resolutions 661 (1990), paragraph 3 (c), and 666 (1990) (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.70, COMM.72)]

TXT[Drew attention to document S/AC.25/1991/COMM.70, containing a letter from the Permanent Representative of Denmark seeking approval of the Committee for the delivery of foodstuffs, medicines and hospital equipment to Iraq. He proposed that the Committee should authorize him to address a letter to the Permanent Representative of Denmark indicating that the Committee had approved the request for shipment of foodstuffs to Iraq, on the condition that distribution would be carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross in coordination with humanitarian organizations. The letter would also indicate that the Committee had taken note that Denmark intended to send medicines and hospital equipment, and would draw its attention to resolution 666 (1990), paragraph 8. It was so decided.]

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SPKR[Hohenfellner] MS[Austria] FCT[Chairman] LANG[1]

ITEM[Foodstuffs and delivery of foodstuffs: Security Council resolutions 661 (1990), paragraph 3 (c), and 666 (1990) (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.70, COMM.72)]

TXT[Turning to document S/AC.25/1991/COMM.72, said that it contained a letter from the Permanent Representative of Belgium informing him that the Belgian Red Cross proposed to send foodstuffs and medicine to Iraq destined for children. Distribution would be undertaken by ICRC in cooperation with the Iraqi Red Crescent Society. He proposed that the Committee should authorize him to address a letter to the Permanent Representative of Belgium indicating that the Committee had approved the shipment of foodstuffs for children, had taken note that the distribution of the entire shipment would be under ICRC supervision, and had taken note of the intention of the Belgian Red Cross to send medicines to Iraq. It was so decided.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]

SPKR[Al-Alfi] MS[Yemen] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Foodstuffs and delivery of foodstuffs: Security Council resolutions 661 (1990), paragraph 3 (c), and 666 (1990) (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.70, COMM.72)]

TXT[Although the document had not yet been made available in translation, he had accepted the Chairman's summary of its content

in order to avoid any delay in providing urgently needed assistance to the people of Iraq.]

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CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Procedure]

SPKR[Hohenfellner] MS[Austria] FCT[Chairman] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[The Secretary-General had transmitted the text of the report of the WHO/UNICEF special mission to Iraq (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.76), which contained useful information regarding the health situation and general living conditions of the Iraqi people. They were living under difficult conditions and faced possible epidemics because of the breakdown of the sewage system and water treatment plants. Sanitary conditions had deteriorated to an alarming degree, and there was a clear need to address that situation and to meet the nutritional requirements of the Iraqi population, particularly women and children. The report did not specify the quantities and quality of goods needed to meet the requirements. He proposed to contact WHO and UNICEF to express the Committee's appreciation for the report and to request specifications. Once such specifications had been received, the Committee would take action.]

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CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Procedure]

SPKR[Hohenfellner] MS[Austria] FCT[Chairman] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[The Secretary-General had asked the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management to travel to the region and to report on possible United Nations actions to alleviate serious problems. He (the Chairman) would also like to request the Under-Secretary-General to report to the Committee on the needs of the civilian population.]

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CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]

SPKR[Al-Alfi] MS[Yemen] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[All sources of information indicated that the current living conditions of the Iraqi people were distressing and painful. Children were drinking contaminated river water without realizing the dangers, and hospitals were attempting to function without electricity. The possibility of assistance being used for non-humanitarian purposes no longer existed. The WHO/UNICEF mission had been used as a pretext by some parties not to provide assistance to Iraq, as no decision could be made until its report was received. The report should be distributed to all Member States so that they could become fully aware of the dangers and the magnitude of destruction in Iraq. Many countries, such as Denmark and Belgium, had already provided assistance, but other countries were still unaware of the needs. It was the duty of the Committee to notify them officially so that they would be able to provide assistance.]

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SPKR[Al-Alfi] MS[Yemen] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]
TXT[That was very important; once Member States had seen the document, the Committee would certainly receive many offers to provide assistance. He was concerned that the details requested from WHO and UNICEF could become another pretext to delay assistance. The Chairman should obtain the required details and forward them to the highest United Nations authorities so that the Committee would not need to adopt further procedures. Member States should then be informed of those details. Another aspect to be considered was the restoration of essential services, such as electrical power and hospital services. The Committee should immediately approve assistance for the reconstruction of Iraq and restoration of essential services such as potable water, and electricity. Foodstuffs were not the only needs of the Iraqi people, and services had a direct effect on their life and health situation.]

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CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]
SPKR[Menon] MS[India] FCT[Member] LANG[1]
ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]
TXT[The report provided further evidence of a humanitarian need. The Committee had a specific responsibility to stress the humanitarian needs in the region, and had to proceed with dispatch. He suggested that it could state that the existence of a humanitarian need had been established, and that any response to alleviate that need would be most welcome. Such responses could then be dealt with in terms of the logistics involved. He agreed with the representative of Yemen that the WHO/UNICEF report should be distributed to all Member States.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]
SPKR[Delon] MS[France] FCT[Member] LANG[1]
ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]
TXT[His Government agreed with the views expressed by Yemen and India that the circumstances in Iraq justified the provision of foodstuffs through the channels authorized in resolutions 661 (1990) and 666 (1990), namely, the United Nations agencies and ICRC. Priority should be given to the most vulnerable groups, as indicated in resolution 666 (1990), paragraph 4. The Committee should authorize assistance in providing fuel, drinking water and electricity, which were directly related to the health situation of the population.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]
SPKR[Yu] MS[China] FCT[Member] LANG[1]
ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]
TXT[Expressed appreciation of the WHO/UNICEF report and of the measures by WHO and UNICEF, as well as the other international agencies involved, to help the people of the region. Now that the hostilities had been suspended, the international community should urgently provide the humanitarian aid required. His delegation

agreed with the measures proposed by the Chairman, and suggested further that the Committee should express approval of the efforts of the humanitarian agencies to provide help. It also supported the proposals made by Yemen, India and France.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]

SPKR[Moreno Fernández] MS[Cuba] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[Expressed appreciation of the excellent report submitted by the WHO/UNICEF mission, and supported the proposal by the representative of Yemen that it should be circulated as an official document. Now that the war appeared to have ended, it was the Committee's task to help heal the wounds it had caused. His delegation shared the view that the Committee should state that a humanitarian need, as defined in Security Council resolution 666 (1990), existed in the region, that the entire population should be provided with food and other necessities, and that there was an urgent need to take action to prevent epidemics. His delegation supported all the other proposals made by representatives and the course of action proposed by the Chairman. In his communications, the Chairman should emphasize the urgency of obtaining a detailed quantitative statement of the aid required.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]

SPKR[Zenenga] MS[Zimbabwe] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[The WHO/UNICEF report confirmed the information the Committee had already received from previous reports. In his view, action by the Committee was long overdue. His delegation therefore agreed with the procedure proposed by the Chairman and the proposals made by the representatives of India and Yemen.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]

SPKR[Lozinskiy] MS[Soviet Union] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[Noted that the WHO/UNICEF report emphasized the fact that the temperature in the area would rise sharply in the next few weeks, and that urgent action was therefore required to avert a disaster in Iraq. The report also provided some specific information on the aid most urgently required. His delegation agreed with the plan of action proposed by the Chairman, and supported the other proposals made in the Committee. He suggested further that the Committee should emphasize that it would welcome any help from any countries in meeting the current crisis. The USSR wished to record its willingness to cooperate in every way to ensure that the necessary aid would be provided in good time.]

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SPKR[Kaba] MS[Côte d'Ivoire] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[The report provided a convincing picture of the magnitude and urgency of the region's needs. Her delegation had no objection to the circulation of the report as an official document, and agreed with the Chairman's proposals. It also felt that the Committee should emphasize the need for cooperative action among all the international organizations concerned, in order to speed up the provision of aid to the region.]

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CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]

SPKR[Richardson] MS[United Kingdom] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[It was his understanding that the Committee would soon be given some quantitative information on the aid required. The sooner that information was received and the Committee could take action, the better. His delegation supported the Chairman's proposals, and agreed that the WHO/UNICEF report should be widely distributed.]

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CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Intervention]

SPKR[Kibidi Ngovuka] MS[Zaire] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[His delegation had taken note of the report with great interest, and agreed that there was an urgent need for the international community to take action to prevent the situation from deteriorating further. It would add only that an effort should be made to avoid any contradiction between the Security Council resolutions governing the situation and the activities of humanitarian organizations.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

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SPKR[Tahir-Kheli] MS[United States] FCT[Member] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[Expressed appreciation of the report and support of the Chairman's proposals. Her delegation trusted that the Committee would continue to move expeditiously, as it had done in the past.]

ISSUE[IRAQ/KUWAIT]

CAT[661] MTG[31] DATE[3/3/91] TYPE[Procedure]

SPKR[Hohenfellner] MS[Austria] FCT[Chairman] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[With the Committee's approval, he intended to take the following action. With respect to the distribution of the report, he would inform WHO and UNICEF of the Committee's great interest in having it distributed to all Members of the United Nations, and would ask that it be given the widest possible distribution. With respect to the proposal that the Committee should declare that a humanitarian need existed in the area, he intended to hold consultations with members of the Committee, and would report back to the Committee on the results as soon as possible. In connection with the suggestions made concerning the need for inter-agency cooperation, he pointed out that one aspect of the mandate just given to the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and

Management by the Secretary-General was to coordinate the action of all the agencies involved in the relief effort.]

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SPKR[Hohenfellner] MS[Austria] FCT[Chairman] LANG[1]

ITEM[Letters dated 1 and 2 March 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman (S/AC.25/1991/COMM.73, COMM.76)]

TXT[Would, however, convey the Committee's interest in such coordination to the Under-Secretary-General. The Under-Secretary-General would also be asked to pay careful attention to the nutritional requirements of the Iraqi population and to include such information in his report to the Secretary-General. He would also contact WHO and UNICEF and ask them to provide the Committee with estimates of the specific aid required, not only under Security Council resolution 666 (1990), but in connection with related health and sanitation needs. It was so decided.]