

No. 8955

**UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY
FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
and
ISRAEL**

**Exchange of letters constituting a provisional agreement
concerning assistance to Palestine Refugees. Jerusalem,
14 June 1967**

Official text: English.

Registered ex officio on 31 January 1968.

**OFFICE DE SECOURS ET DE TRAVAUX
DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LES RÉFUGIÉS
DE PALESTINE DANS LE PROCHE-ORIENT
et
ISRAËL**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord provisoire con-
cernant une assistance aux réfugiés de Palestine. Jérusalem, 14 juin 1967**

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré d'office le 31 janvier 1968.

No. 8955. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING A PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST AND ISRAEL CONCERNING ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINE REFUGEES. JERUSALEM, 14 JUNE 1967

I

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

14 June 1967

Dear Commissioner-General,

I wish to refer to the conversations I have had with you and your colleagues within the last two days, and to confirm our agreement that, at the request of the Israel Government, UNRWA would continue its assistance to the Palestine refugees, with the full co-operation of the Israel authorities, in the West Bank and Gaza Strip areas.

For its part, the Israel Government will facilitate the task of UNRWA to the best of its ability, subject only to regulations or arrangements which may be necessitated by considerations of military security. On this understanding, we are prepared to agree in principle:

(a) To ensure the protection and security of the personnel, installations and property of UNRWA;

(b) To permit the free movement of UNRWA vehicles into, within and out of Israel and the areas in question;

(c) To permit the international staff of the Agency to move in, out and within Israel and the areas in question; they will be provided with identity documents and any other passes which might be required;

(d) To permit the local staff of the Agency to move within the areas in question under arrangements made or to be made with the military authorities;

(e) To provide radio, telecommunications and landing facilities;

¹ Came into force on 14 June 1967 by the exchange of the said letters.

(f) Pending a further supplementary agreement, to maintain the previously existing financial arrangements with the governmental authorities then responsible for the areas in question, concerning:

- (i) Exemptions from customs duties, taxes and charges on importation of supplies, goods and equipment;
- (ii) provision free of charge of warehousing, labour for offloading and handling, and transport by rail or road in the areas under our control;
- (iii) such other costs to the Agency as were previously met by the governmental authorities concerned.

(g) To recognize that the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946,¹ to which Israel is a party, shall govern the relations between the Government and UNRWA in all that concerns UNRWA's functions.

The present letter and your acceptance in writing will be considered by the Government of Israel and by UNRWA as a provisional agreement which will remain in force until replaced or cancelled.

I have the honour to be,

Michael COMAY
Political Adviser to the Foreign Minister
and Ambassador-at-Large

Dr. Lawrence Michelmore
Commissioner-General
United Nations Relief and Works Agency

II

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY
FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

14 June 1967

Your Excellency,

I refer to your letter of to-day's date, and wish to confirm that UNRWA is willing to continue its assistance to the Palestine refugees in the West Bank and Gaza Strip areas on the basis proposed in your letter. This will be subject to such further supplementary agreements as may be required, and to detailed arrangements which UNRWA representatives will make with the authorities in the two areas concerned.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 1, p. 15, and Vol. 90, p. 327 (corrigendum to Vol. 1, p. 18).

Naturally, this co-operation implies no commitment or position by UNRWA with regard to the status of any of the areas in question or of any instrument relating to them, but is concerned solely with the continuation of its humanitarian task.

As I explained in our conversation, the facilities enumerated in paras. (a) to (g) of your letter are essential if the Agency is to operate effectively. For this reason I expect that such restrictions as may for the time being be placed on the full use of those facilities will be removed as soon as considerations of military security permit this.

I agree that your letter and this reply constitute a provisional agreement between UNRWA and the Government of Israel, to remain in force until replaced or cancelled. UNRWA's agreement is subject to any relevant instructions or resolutions emanating from the United Nations.

I have the honour to be, Yours faithfully,

Lawrence MICHELMORE
Commissioner-General

His Excellency Michael Comay
Political Adviser to the Foreign Minister of Israel
and Ambassador-at-Large