

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE
SUBCOMMITTEE TWO

WORKING PAPER SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATE OF THE NETHERLANDS
AS A BASIS OF DISCUSSION

At the 10th meeting of UNSCOP, it was decided to set up a Sub-Committee to study the statements submitted to the Committee and to suggest which persons and organizations should be heard by the Committee (Doc. A/AC.13/SR/10).

I. It is recommended that the Sub-Committee first decides on the criteria by which the granting of a hearing shall be determined.

The following criteria are suggested:

Oral hearings will be granted to:

- A. Political organizations representative of considerable groups of the population of Palestine
- B. Organizations of smaller membership or of a non-political character representing view points of particular interest for the problem under investigation;
- C. Individuals holding personal view points of particular interest for the problem under investigation not submitted by representatives of organizations under A. or B.;
- D. Religious authorities of the various Churches, Denominations or Sects.

With regard to category D, the Committee could issue invitations to those proper authorities who do not apply for hearings. It will be remembered that one of the Terms of Reference of the Committee holds the duty to give most careful consideration to the interests of Judaism, the Moslem religion, and Christianity. This leads to the question of whether invitations should also be sent to representatives of the organizations and individuals mentioned under A, B, and C, particularly on the Arab side. However, this point is left open since it does not fall within the Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee.

II. The Secretariat has distributed, on 12 June, a note (without number) including all communications requesting oral hearings before the Committee up to that date (copy attached). They are divided into two categories: A, requests from organizations and B, requests from individuals. With regard to category A, it is recommended that the following action be taken (the numbers used are those of the note of the Secretariat mentioned above):

A. Requests from Organizations

1. Agudath Israel World Organization, Jerusalem.

The Secretariat be requested to make enquiries about the membership and aims of this organization, taking into consideration the same request of those mentioned under numbers 4 and 14.

2. Alliance Israélite Universelle, Paris.

In the Memorandum of this organization, nothing of particular interest is stated that will not be included in the statements for the Jewish Agency. It appears, therefore, that an oral hearing is unnecessary.

3. Anglo-Jewish Association, London.

Oral hearing not necessary.

4. Ashkenasic Jewish Community, Jerusalem.

See under 1.

5. Communist Party of Palestine, Central Committee,
Tel Aviv.

A hearing should be granted under category

A. The membership is not known but in the application it is stated that the paper published by this body has a circulation of 5,000 copies.

6. General Federation of Jewish Labor in Palestine,
Tel Aviv.

A hearing should be granted under category

B. The Federation of Jewish Labour includes most of the working people of Palestine and, therefore, their evidence will be of particular interest.

7. Ihud (Union) Association, Jerusalem.

A hearing should be granted under category

B. This organization consists of a not very large but influential number of intellectuals who have been advocating for many years close cooperation between Jews and Arabs in a bi-national state.

8. International League Against Anti-Semitism, Tel
Aviv.

?

9. Jewish Agency for Palestine, Jerusalem.

A hearing should be granted under category

A.

10. League for the Equal Right to Work for Every Jew,
Tel Aviv.

?

11. League for Peace with Justice in Palestine.

?

12. Ligue Mondiale de la Paix, Central Committee,
Jerusalem.

The Secretariat be requested to inquire about
the membership of this organization.

13. The Palestine Communist Union, Central Committee,
Tel Aviv.

The memorandum has not yet been received. In
the meantime, the Secretariat be requested to
inform the Committee on the membership of this
organization and its relation to the Communist
Party of Palestine mentioned under 5.

14. Sepharadic Community, Jerusalem.

See under 1.

15. Vaad Leumi (General Council of the Jewish Community
of Palestine, Jerusalem.

A hearing should be granted under category A.
The memorandum submitted by the Vaad Leumi deals
only with local government in Palestine. The
Secretariat be requested to inquire whether it
is the intention of this organization to be
heard only on questions of internal administra-
tion of this country.

B. Requests from Individuals

At the moment of writing this paper, nothing is
known about the letters from those persons whose numbers are
NOT given below.

It is not always possible, by reading the letters addressed to the Committee, to have a clear view of the actual value of the view point explained therein nor of the intellectual capacity of the writer. Therefore, it is recommended that, before any hearing be granted to an individual under category C, some investigation should be made by the Secretariat through the most appropriate channels about the applicant. Therefore, hereunder no definite suggestions are made.

2. J.W. Abileah, Haifa

The author promotes an idea of particular interest, sc., a United Palestine and Transjordan under the rulership of King Abdullah in order to enable large scale immigration. This idea deserves the attention of the Committee.

4. Rahel Ber, Haifa.

Not within the scope of the hearings.

10. E. Lelelund, Haifa.

A hearing should be granted to an appropriate representative of British business communities, as it could be valuable for the Committee to have a statement from the side of private enterprise.

11. J. Lifshitz, Tel Aviv.

No reason for a hearing.

12. E. Linz, Jerusalem.

It is not known which viewpoint this applicant will bring forward. Therefore, no reason for a hearing.

13. Dr. S. Low, Tel Aviv.

The author deals only with what is, in the whole of the problem, only a minor subject. No reason for a hearing.

15. D. Pantofaru, Haifa.

No reason for a hearing.

16. John Popper, Tel Aviv.

No reason for a hearing.

17. Rabbi M. M. Porush, Jerusalem.

Notwithstanding that the applicant expresses a very wise view in saying "the safest plan is to continue our struggle without a practical plan", there is not sufficient reason for a hearing.