

## Resolution adopted by the Standing Technical Subcommittee on Welfare for Europe (10 January 1945)

**Caption:** On 10 January 1945, following the harsh winter of 1944–1945, the Standing Technical Subcommittee on Welfare for Europe adopts a resolution calling on the UNRRA authorities to dispatch emergency aid to the liberated countries in Europe.

**Source:** Archives Nationales du Luxembourg, Luxembourg. Ministère des Affaires étrangères. Instituts internationaux - Institutions spécialisées - Organisations internationales. Unité Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. UNRRA - Correspondance classée chronologiquement 1945, AE 8088.

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Reports from liberated territories showed that civilian population in many battlescarred areas are suffering acute distress. The Standing Technical Subcommittee on Welfare for Europe considers relief of this distress is an urgent necessity and that attention of the Welfare Division and its advisers should now be concentrated on these immediate operational requirements. The Subcommittee desires to offer the following comments.

- (a) the problem of relieving immediate distress, with the approval and cooperation of the Governments concerned, is primarily one of providing supplies required to meet emergency needs.
- (b) much immediate distress can be alleviated by relatively small quantities of supplies and these can be made available even though the general supply problem of the country is complicated by transport shortages, military requirements and other factors. Although this is largely a supply matter it should be considered as predominantly a welfare service and not as part of larger supply programme for countries concerned.
- (c) There are many difficulties to be overcome – difficulties of procurement, shipping and inland transport – and it will be impossible to furnish emergency supplies on more than a small scale at present. Nevertheless, it is essential that a beginning should be made without delay.
- (d) Success will depend on close collaboration with the Military authorities of whose cordial cooperation the Subcommittee has been assured.