UNITED NATIONS S



## **Security Council**

Distr. GENERAL

S/AC.26/1991/5
23 October 1991

Original: ENGLISH

THE UNITED NATIONS COMPENSATION COMMISSION

Decision taken by the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission during its second session, at the 15th meeting, held on 18 October 1991

<u>Guidelines relating to paragraph 19 of the Criteria</u> <u>for Expedited Processing of Urgent Claims</u>

- 1. These guidelines are made in pursuance to the third sentence of paragraph 19 of the Criteria for Expedited Processing of Urgent Claims contained in document  $S/AC.\,26/1991/1$  of 2 August 1991.
- 2. The third sentence of paragraph 19 provides that, in addition to Governments as subjects submitting claims, the Council may request an appropriate person, authority or body to submit claims on behalf of individuals who are not in a position to have their claims submitted by a Government.
- 3. A high number of individuals will most likely not be in a position to have their claims submitted by a Government. Among these individuals Palestinians represent the most numerous group. Furthermore, stateless persons and other individuals in the same position who still remain in Kuwait or who are situated on border lines are to be included in this category.
- 4. The international community, represented by the UNCC, bears the overall responsibility for protecting the interests of the above-mentioned individuals. It will be necessary, however, that an appropriate person be entrusted with various aspects of the implementation of this task which shall include, <u>inter alia</u>, providing information to future claimants, distributing and collecting forms, submitting claims and, finally, executing payments.

- 5. To engage in this task in a comprehensive manner would, however, go beyond the administrative and personnel capacities of the Commission. Therefore, the person to be appointed in order to submit claims on behalf of individuals who are not in a position to have their claims submitted by a Government should, prior to and throughout the execution of his work, seek advice and any appropriate cooperation from established and experienced international bodies, such as UNRWA, UNHCR and the ICRC. Cooperation would appear especially appropriate with international bodies having a network of regional offices at their disposal.
- 6. If one of the above-mentioned organizations should take part in any operation in cooperation with the UNCC, this organization and the UNCC may discuss the financial implications.
- 7. The Governing Council therefore requests that the Executive Secretary obtain all information necessary to appoint an appropriate person, authority or body to submit claims on behalf of individuals who are not in a position to have their claims submitted by a Government and to make a recommendation to the Governing Council at its next session regarding the appropriate person, authority or body, to be appointed.

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