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

Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for
higher education, including vocational training, for
Palestine refugees

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report is submitted to the General Assembly in pursuance of its resolution **41/69 D** of 3 December **1986**.
2. The report includes the substance of responses from Member States and United Nations agencies to the appeal contained in that resolution, together with reference to further action taken by Member States and United Nations agencies in response to the appeal contained in General Assembly resolutions **32/90 F** of 13 December **1977**, **33/112 C** of 18 December 1978, **34/52 C** of 23 November 1979, **35/13 B** of 3 November 1980, **36/146 H** of 16 December 1981, **37/123 D** of 16 December 1982, **38/83 D** of 15 December 1983, **39/99 D** of 14 December 1984 and **40/165 D** of 16 December **1985**. By these resolutions the Assembly appealed to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to make special allocations for scholarships and grants to Palestine refugees, and invited the relevant United Nations agencies to continue, within their respective spheres of competence, to expand assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students. The Assembly requested the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to act as recipient and trustee for such special allocations and scholarships and to award them to qualified refugee candidates.

* A/42/150.

3. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany awarded a total of 24 fellowships to Palestine refugee graduates of UNRWA vocational training centres in the period from **1981 to 1986**. These awards, while not specifically in response to the General Assembly's resolutions, are in keeping with their spirit.

4. In 1987, the Government of Japan offered 15 training fellowships to UNRWA's vocational training instructors. The fellowships, which apply to studies in Japan, are under the guidance of the Japan International Co-operation Agency. A similar number of fellowships were provided in **1986**, and five were provided in 1985. In addition, Japan dispatched a team of three automotive specialists and contributed machine parts and equipment valued at **¥ 35**million to the **Wadi Seer UNRWA Training Centre**, for an automotive maintenance course.

5. The World Intellectual Property Organisation followed up its awards of 13 fellowships in the period from 1980 to **1986** with a further offer of fellowships in 1987.

6. The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation provided a course of six weeks' duration in 1986 to **12** Palestinians from the occupied territories. The course, in the field of industrial co-operation, was held at the **ILO's International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training in Turin, Italy**.

7. The International Atomic Energy Agency repeated its willingness to consider any application for a fellowship award if requested to do so by a Member State or group of Member States.

8. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), as part of its long-standing agreement with UNRWA, granted 41 fellowships to **Palestine** refugee education staff of UNRWA in the period from 1981 to 1985. In 1986 a total of five fellowships was awarded. Candidates for such fellowships in 1987 have been proposed to UNESCO and it is expected that fellowships will be awarded later in the year.

9. UNESCO has also, outside the framework of its co-operation with UNRWA, attributed a number of fellowships to students from the occupied Arab territories and to the teaching staff of educational institutions situated in these territories. **An**amount of \$140,000 has been allocated in **1986/87** for this purpose. **In** addition, the Director-General of UNESCO is in the process of establishing a scholarship fund for the higher education of students from the occupied territories in order to improve and develop the skills of the staff of the educational and cultural institutions of the **territories**.

10. The **World Health Organization**, in a post-graduate training programme aimed at developing the technical and managerial skills of the staff at **UNRWA's** Department of Health and at meeting future replacement needs under the various health disciplines, awarded five regional and international fellowships to Palestine refugee health staff of UNRWA in 1986,
