



# General Assembly

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Item 72 (a) of the agenda

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations**

## Central Emergency Response Fund

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### *Summary*

The present report provides a description of the activities of the Central Emergency Response Fund from 1 January to 31 December 2022, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [77/28](#). The Fund continued to play a key role in the global humanitarian response in 2022. During the reporting period, the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved \$734.6 million in support of life-saving humanitarian activities in 42 countries – the second highest amount in the history of the Fund. In addition, four loans were approved for a total value of \$57 million.

The Fund received a total of \$611.9 million from its donors in 2022, the fourth highest annual income in its history. In the context of increasing humanitarian needs, continued support from Member States and other donors is crucial for enabling the Fund to meet the needs of people affected by humanitarian emergencies worldwide and to attain its increased annual funding target of \$1 billion, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution [71/127](#).



## I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 77/28 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund. The report covers the activities carried out under the Fund from 1 January to 31 December 2022.

## II. Overview of the funding commitments of the Fund

2. With \$734.6 million provided in 2022 for humanitarian activities in 42 countries (see table below and annex I), the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved the second highest amount in a single year in the history of the Fund. It was second only to 2020, when the Fund allocated \$848.1 million for humanitarian responses in 59 countries, facilitated by exceptional end-of-year donor top-ups in 2019 that were carried over to 2020. In addition, in 2022, four loans totalling \$57 million were approved. Between its inception in 2005 and the end of 2022, the Fund has provided some \$8.2 billion for humanitarian assistance in 119 countries, territories or areas. Grants were directly allocated to United Nations funds and programmes as well as specialized agencies.

### A. Allocations by funding window

#### Central Emergency Response Fund allocations, 1 January to 31 December 2022

(United States dollars)

	<i>Rapid response window</i>	<i>Underfunded emergencies window</i>	<i>Total</i>
Amount approved	484 545 788	250 101 138	734 646 926
Number of recipient countries	36	23 <sup>a</sup>	42
Number of projects funded	268	133	401

<sup>a</sup> Certain countries received allocations from both funding windows.

3. Allocations from the rapid response window help to initiate responses to humanitarian needs in the initial stages of a sudden-onset crisis or in the case of a significant deterioration of an existing emergency. In 2022, the Fund provided \$484.5 million through the rapid response window. Another \$250.1 million was allocated to 23 severely underfunded and neglected crises through the underfunded emergencies window. These allocations helped to sustain life-saving humanitarian operations and draw attention to funding gaps and humanitarian crises where donor interest may have waned.

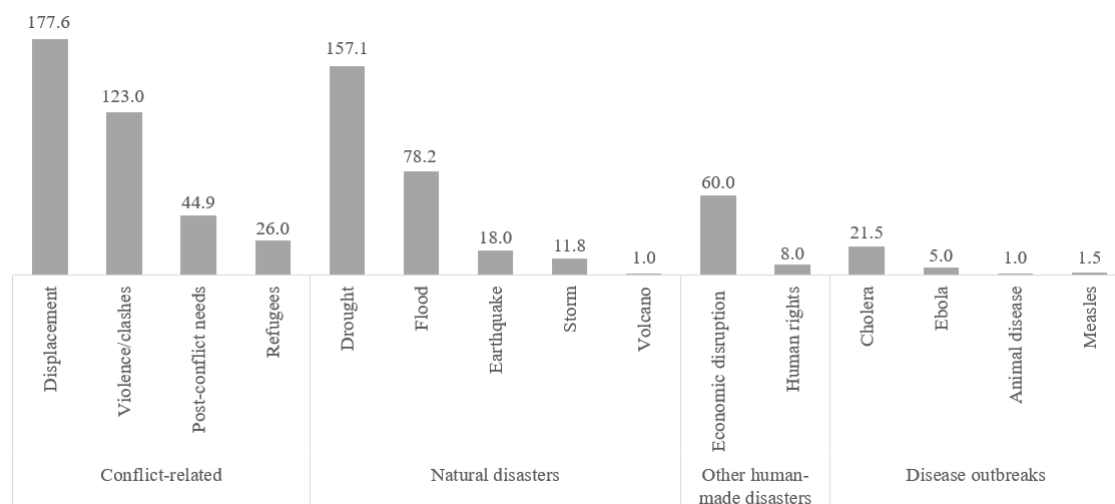
### B. Allocations by emergency type

4. Crises driven by conflict received the largest share of funding in 2022, totalling \$371.5 million (51 per cent). Of this, approximately 48 per cent was provided to humanitarian needs related to displacement, again demonstrating the important role of the Fund in supporting the response to people displaced by conflict. A total of \$266.1 million (36 per cent) was allocated to address the humanitarian consequences of climate-related and other natural disasters. In addition, some \$68 million (9 per cent) was provided for humanitarian needs related to severe economic crises and

human rights violations, and another \$29 million (4 per cent) was allocated in response to disease outbreaks (see figure I).

**Figure I**  
**Central Emergency Response Fund allocations in 2022, by emergency type**

(Millions of United States dollars)

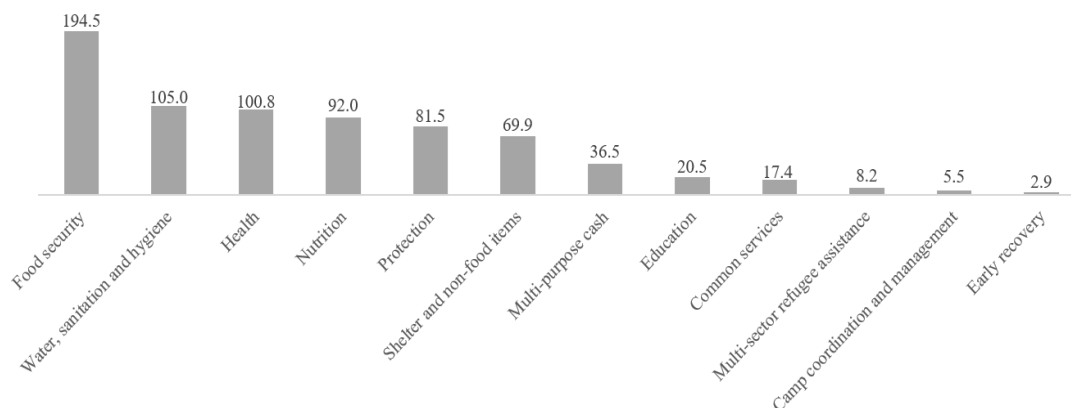


### C. Allocations by sector

5. With a total of \$194.5 million (26 per cent), the food security sector was the highest funded sector in 2022. This represented an increase of 86 per cent from the amount allocated in 2021 (\$104.8 million), driven mainly by deteriorating levels of global food security following consecutive failed rainy seasons linked to climate change, compounding impacts of conflicts, shortages of wheat and fertilizers from the Russian Federation and Ukraine, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and rising food prices. The water, sanitation and hygiene sector was the second most funded sector, receiving \$105 million (14 per cent), followed by the health sector which received \$100.8 million (14 per cent).

Figure II  
**Central Emergency Response Fund allocations in 2022, by sector**

(Millions of United States dollars)



<sup>a</sup> Protection activities include initiatives in child protection, gender-based violence and mine action.

<sup>b</sup> Common services include common humanitarian air service, common logistics, common telecommunications, and safety and security of staff and operations.

#### D. Allocations by region

6. Humanitarian operations in Africa received \$464 million, the largest share of the 2022 allocations (63 per cent), followed by the Middle East with \$98 million (14 per cent), Asia and the Pacific with \$66.3 million (9 per cent), Europe with \$60.5 million (8 per cent) and Latin America and the Caribbean with \$45.8 million (6 per cent).

7. In Africa, a total of \$219 million (47 per cent of the \$464 million allocated to Africa) was used to address climate-related disasters. This was more than double the amount allocated in 2021 (\$84.2 million). Another \$206 million (44 per cent) was allocated in response to conflict. In addition, \$22 million (5 per cent) was allocated to other types of emergencies, including human rights violations and severe economic crises, and \$17 million (4 per cent) was allocated to address disease outbreaks. South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia were the largest recipients of funding in Africa in 2022. South Sudan received \$54 million in response to the humanitarian consequences of floods, conflict and subnational violence, and displacement. The Democratic Republic of the Congo received \$50.8 million in response to mass displacement, cholera and Ebola outbreaks, while Somalia received \$48 million in response to drought and displacement.

8. In the Middle East, \$65 million (66 per cent) of the \$98 million allocated in 2022 was used to address needs caused by conflict. Another \$28 million (29 per cent) was provided in response to human rights violations and severe economic crises. Finally, \$5 million (5 per cent) was allocated to address disease outbreaks. Yemen, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon were the largest recipients in the region. Yemen received a total of \$60 million in Fund allocations in response to economic crises and mass displacement. The second largest recipient in 2022 was the Syrian Arab Republic, with \$25 million to respond to multifaceted humanitarian needs. Lebanon received \$13 million in response to a cholera outbreak and economic crises.

9. Of the total \$66.3 million allocated to the Asia and Pacific region, \$32 million (48 per cent) was allocated to address humanitarian needs resulting from conflict-related emergencies, and \$29.3 million (44 per cent) was allocated in response to

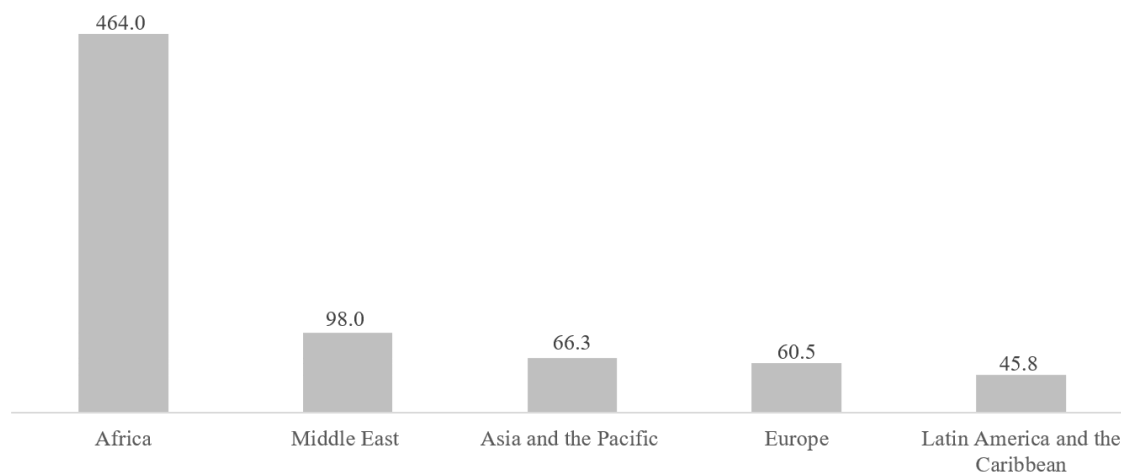
natural disasters. Finally, \$5 million was allocated to contexts of economic crises. Some \$22 million was provided to Myanmar in response to mass displacement, making it the largest recipient country in the region. Bangladesh was the second largest recipient in the region, receiving \$14 million, in response to floods and needs in refugee settlements. Pakistan received the third highest amount, a total of \$10.1 million in response to floods.

10. Humanitarian operations in Europe received \$60.5 million in 2022, all of which was allocated to Ukraine in response to the armed conflict there.

11. Of the \$45.8 million allocated to Latin America and the Caribbean, \$17.8 million (39 per cent) was used to address needs stemming from natural disasters, making it the most funded emergency type in the region. This was followed by contexts of human right violations and economic crises, accounting for \$13 million (28 per cent). Conflict-related humanitarian emergencies received \$8 million in funding (17 per cent), while \$7 million (15 per cent) was allocated in response to disease outbreaks. Haiti received \$20 million, the largest allocation in the region, in response to an earthquake, violence and a cholera outbreak. Nearly \$8 million was allocated to address humanitarian needs in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, while \$7.8 million was allocated in response to a hurricane in Cuba.

Figure III  
**Central Emergency Response Fund allocations in 2022, by region**

(Millions of United States dollars)

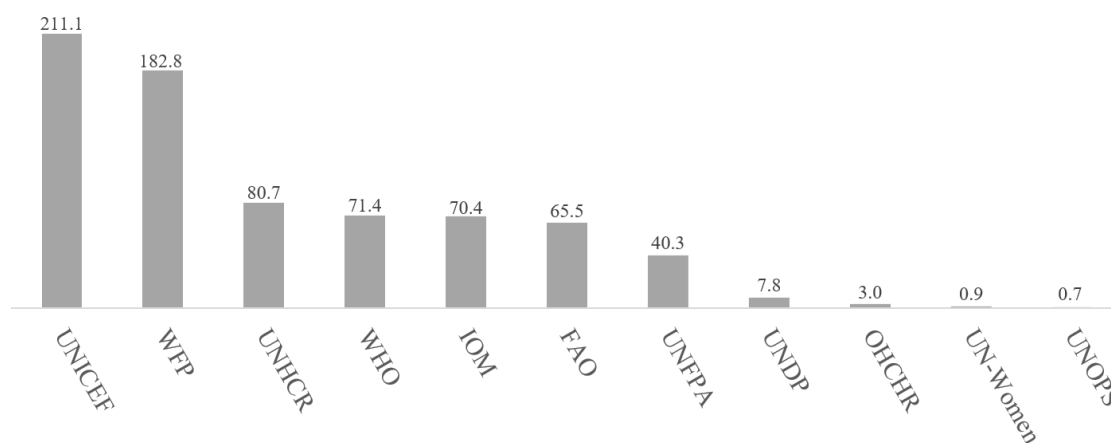


## E. Allocations by United Nations entities

12. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme together received over half (54 per cent, or \$393.9 million) of the overall Fund allocations, to address food security, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, and health, which accounted for 67 per cent, or \$492.3 million, of the total amount allocated in 2022 (see figure IV).

Figure IV  
**Central Emergency Response Fund in 2022, allocations by United Nations entity**

(Millions of United States dollars)



*Abbreviations:* FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; IOM, International Organization for Migration; OHCHR, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; UN-Women, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; UNDP, United Nations Development Programme; UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund; UNHCR, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; UNICEF, United Nations Children’s Fund; UNOPS, United Nations Office for Project Services; WFP, World Food Programme; WHO, World Health Organization.

## F. Loans

13. The Fund provided short-term loans of \$47 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). A \$17 million loan was provided in May, which was reimbursed in July. In October and December, the Fund provided two additional loans to UNRWA, totalling \$30 million, which were reimbursed in the first quarter of 2023. The loans to UNRWA helped manage a severe cash-flow crisis and ensured the continued availability of basic health-care services, including the procurement of essential medicines, for almost 2 million Palestine refugees in the occupied Palestinian territory, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. Furthermore, in July, the Fund provided a short-term loan of \$10 million to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to support the improvement of crop production in Ethiopia. The loan was repaid in September 2022.

14. To further enhance the effectiveness of the Fund’s loan facility in supporting critical humanitarian operations, it is recommended to explore a more flexible loan component of the Fund in line with the General Assembly resolutions [46/118](#) and [66/119](#).

### III. Key highlights of the use of the Fund in 2022

#### People assisted by the Fund in 2022<sup>1</sup>

15. The funding allocated in 2022 allowed for the provision of life-saving assistance to an estimated 32.7 million people, of which an estimated 23.8 million were displaced, the highest proportion in the history of the Fund (73 per cent). Of the 32.7 million people assisted, 17.2 million (53 per cent) were women and girls and 17.1 million (52 per cent) were children. The share of women and girls receiving support from the Fund was higher in some sectors, such as the nutrition sector (67 per cent) and the protection sector (60 per cent). The funding also provided critical aid to 2.4 million people with disabilities.

16. Among others, 2022 allocations enabled:

- 17.7 million people to receive access to health-care services
- 8.2 million people to gain access to water, sanitation and hygiene services
- 8.2 million people to receive food assistance and agriculture-based livelihood support
- 5.2 million people to benefit from protection interventions
- 4.9 million people to gain access to nutritional support
- 3.4 million people to benefit from camp management services, multisector refugee assistance and the provision of shelter or basic relief items
- 1 million people to receive multipurpose cash, early recovery assistance and common services
- 845,000 people to benefit from access to education

17. Crises related to conflict received the most assistance in 2022. One example of an allocation made in relation to these types of crises in 2022 is set out below.

18. Following the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation in February 2022, the Fund promptly disbursed \$60.5 million through two allocations to help United Nations agencies and their implementing partners to quickly scale up the provision of multisectoral assistance to people inside Ukraine and for people fleeing heavily affected areas, while also enhancing the humanitarian community's response capacity. The funding was used to provide assistance to a total of 1 million people. An initial \$20.5 million was granted in February to enable United Nations entities to jump-start response efforts to the rapidly aggravating humanitarian crisis. An additional \$40 million was allocated in March, as the humanitarian situation further deteriorated, to provide assistance through protection and health care and to

<sup>1</sup> The Fund uses the number of people directly targeted as a proxy for the number of people assisted. This approach allows for timely global reporting as the final data on people reached with funding only becomes available when resident and humanitarian coordinators share grant reports with the Fund, up to one year after receiving the allocations. Analysis have shown that funded projects consistently reach significantly more people than initially anticipated. The fund will continue to monitor the reported data. The Fund applies a consistent methodology for tracking the number of people targeted. It requires all recipient agencies to provide detailed information on the number of people directly targeted and reached with each funded project. The multisectoral nature of funded assistance means that people may receive funded life-saving assistance through multiple sectors. To prevent double-counting, the Fund uses a two-step methodology. First, sector leads, in consultation with implementing agencies, identify areas of duplication within sectors. Second, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs country offices or resident and humanitarian coordinator offices identify duplications between sectors within the same Fund allocation.

strengthen response capacity through logistics and emergency telecommunication support, as well as by providing \$9.8 million in cash assistance to over 100,000 people. Protection funded activities supported the prevention of, and response to, gender-based violence and enabled gender-based violence psychosocial support and case management of 40,000 people. The allocations of the Fund strategically complemented allocations from the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund, which mainly supported local and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), while the Central Emergency Response Fund supported United Nations agencies.

19. In 2022, allocations to climate-related disasters significantly increased compared with the Fund's historical average percentage. One example of an allocation made in relation to these types of crises in 2022 is set out below.

20. In 2022, the Horn of Africa experienced its worst drought in recent history following five consecutive failed rainy seasons. The drought affected 32 million people, with approximately 23.5 million facing high levels of acute food insecurity, including 8.3 million acutely malnourished children and lactating women. Shortages of wheat and fertilizers from the Russian Federation and Ukraine, on which the region was dependent, further exacerbated the situation.

21. In continuation of the Fund's initial drought response in the Horn of Africa in 2020 and 2021, an additional \$75 million was allocated to enable United Nations agencies to scale up life-saving assistance to the most at-risk people in the region as the situation deteriorated in 2022. Fund allocations enabled time-critical humanitarian efforts when the first signs of impending disaster were seen, including allocations for Djibouti (\$2 million), Ethiopia (\$22 million), Kenya (\$10 million) and Somalia (\$41 million).

22. In 2022, the Fund continued to play a critical role in responding to disease outbreaks. An example of an allocation is set out below.

23. In October 2022, the Haitian health authorities confirmed the first cholera cases. Some communities already experienced insufficient access to health services, water and sanitation. Those factors, along with security concerns, made humanitarian assistance essential to effectively respond to the cholera outbreak.

24. In response to the crisis, \$7 million was allocated from the Fund's rapid response window, five days after the first cholera cases were confirmed. The allocation was strategically focused to help stop the spread of cholera, especially in areas with no or limited access to basic services, for example, in spontaneous displacement sites and in poor and densely populated areas. Multisectoral assistance was provided to 292,000 people. Funded projects focused on ensuring water, sanitation and hygiene assistance; movement of supplies and humanitarian workers and increasing access through United Nations Humanitarian Air Services. The main target groups were children, pregnant women, older people and other high-risk groups.

#### **IV. Strategic initiatives of the Fund**

25. Fund allocations are strategically leveraged to strengthen humanitarian responses. Although the Fund represented under 2 per cent of all humanitarian funding recorded in 2022, its allocations had a critical multiplier effect. In 2022, key efforts included a continued roll-out of anticipatory action frameworks, the increased use of early action allocations, reinforced efforts to support the localization of aid, and the promotion of effective, efficient and accountable programming to better meet the needs of people affected by humanitarian crises.



## A. Anticipatory action

26. The Fund began piloting a more anticipatory response to predictable humanitarian shocks in 2019. By the end of 2022, the Fund had been involved in the development and roll-out of 11 anticipatory action frameworks linked to droughts, floods, storms and disease outbreaks. In 2022, the Fund granted a total of \$28.5 million through anticipatory action frameworks, for drought in the Niger, flooding in Nepal, a cholera outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and for anticipated floods in South Sudan through a hybrid approach. Each anticipatory action framework consists of three components: (a) a robust forecasting mechanism linked to a clear decision-making process; (b) pre-agreed activities; and (c) pre-arranged funds that can be released to immediately initiate time-critical activities.

27. The Fund's anticipatory pilots have produced important lessons on the effectiveness of collective anticipatory action and best practices for further scaling up the approach. To capture evidence and learning in a systematic way, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and partners have developed a multi-component learning framework that combines agency-specific monitoring and evaluation, process learning and independent impact evaluations.<sup>2</sup> Learning from the anticipatory action frameworks is considered a common good for the humanitarian community, and related reports are available on the Office's website.

28. Framework activations indicate that, overall, anticipatory action helps meet the humanitarian needs of affected people in a more timely and dignified manner, strengthens the resilience and coping capacity of affected people, and allows partners to mobilize before a crisis has fully materialized.

29. The Fund increasingly enables partners to get ahead of predictable hazards and thereby ensures more efficient, effective and dignified humanitarian action. Complementing the anticipatory action frameworks, the Fund continued to make early, forward-looking allocations that seek to respond earlier to imminent crises on the basis of an analysis of risks and projections of needs.

## B. Localization and NGO partnerships

30. Localization is key to local capacity-building and to the delivery of contextually appropriate and effective humanitarian responses. While the Fund is mandated to provide grants solely to United Nations funds and programmes, as well as specialized agencies, many of its grants are implemented by United Nations entities in partnership with non-governmental organizations, host Governments and Red Cross and Red Crescent societies. In 2022, in the two underfunded emergencies allocation rounds, the Emergency Relief Coordinator encouraged United Nations country teams to organize dedicated consultations with national and local partners on the design of Fund allocations and to strengthen their engagement in the implementation of funding. Humanitarian coordinators were encouraged to set ambitious targets for sub-granting funding to local organizations, consult with local organizations as implementing partners and seek new local partnerships under the second of the 2022 underfunded emergencies round. As a result, 25 per cent of the funding allocated through the round was sub-granted to national and local partners, compared with the Fund's previous trend of less than 15 per cent.

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<sup>2</sup> For the most recent status on the anticipatory action frameworks please refer to [aa.unocha.org](https://aa.unocha.org).

31. In 2021, a total of \$548 million was allocated by the Fund to United Nations humanitarian agencies.<sup>3</sup> Of that total, \$122 million was sub-granted by recipient United Nations entities to non-United Nations organizations. Of that \$122 million, \$80 million went to national and local partners. Sub-grants were allocated to 720 organizations, comprising 327 local and national NGOs, 206 international NGOs, 173 government entities and 14 Red Cross and Red Crescent societies. The sub-grants supported partnerships and a localized response and helped to expand the reach of funded humanitarian action.

### **C. Promotion of effective, efficient and accountable programming**

32. The Fund reinforces support for high-risk groups and the most vulnerable, including women, children and people with disabilities, through targeted innovative allocations and by mainstreaming support to those groups across all funding. Gender considerations, including gender-based violence, are mainstreamed in all stages of the Fund's programme cycle. Disability considerations have similarly been mainstreamed within the programme cycle. The Fund also requires recipient agencies to be guided by the gender and age marker when developing project proposals and to include in them responses to assessments concerning gender-based violence and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse. Funding to the protection sector reached \$81.5 million in 2022, the second highest annual amount in the history of the Fund. Of that amount, at least \$28 million in funding went directly towards efforts to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.<sup>4</sup> In 2023, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs pooled fund grant management platform (OneGMS) will allow for improved data analysis of indicators for high-risk groups already collected by the Fund, including the gender, age and disability status of beneficiaries.

33. The Fund advanced accountability to affected populations in 2022 as a key component at both the allocation and project levels to ensure a more accountable humanitarian response, in line with the commitments of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. This included demonstrating the following: the existence of complaint and feedback mechanisms for affected populations; referral systems; surveys whose results informed the prioritization for the Fund's allocations; focus group discussions; community engagement via text message or media broadcasting; and awareness-raising, including with regard to gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse. A continued emphasis in 2022 was placed on ensuring that agencies demonstrate that they have conducted consultations with cross-sections of the affected communities, taken feedback into account at the project design and implementation stages and used appropriate feedback mechanisms during implementation. In 2023, OneGMS and new standard indicators will be launched that will allow the Fund to better assess the implementation of commitments regarding accountability to affected populations.

34. To strengthen the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance and empower affected people to make their own choices about what they need the most, the Fund promotes the use of cash and voucher assistance, especially multi-purpose cash. The Fund asks country teams to consider such assistance as the default modality for funded responses in contexts where it is appropriate. For instance, the Emergency Relief Coordinator specifically instructed resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators to use cash and voucher assistance as much as possible in the

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<sup>3</sup> Owing to the nature of the Fund reporting cycle, comprehensive information on subgrants becomes available only a full year after the calendar year under review. Complete information on subgrants made under 2022 Fund allocations will be available only in early 2024.

<sup>4</sup> This amount is most likely an underestimation because it captures only interventions to combat gender-based violence that are clearly budgeted in projects funded by the Fund.

\$130 million allocation from February for 11 countries in response to rising levels of severe food insecurity. This concerted push helped ensure a record level of cash and voucher assistance under the 2022 funded humanitarian response, with 16 per cent of all funds delivered directly to affected people in the form of cash and vouchers.

## **D. Evidence of strategic impact**

35. According to the assessment of the strategic added value of 2021 funding<sup>5</sup>, 98 per cent of resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators stated in their reports that the funding had led to fast implementation of humanitarian response, 98 per cent said that the funding had helped to respond to time-critical humanitarian needs and 94 per cent stated that funds had helped to improve the coordination of humanitarian action.<sup>6</sup> For instance, according to the resident and humanitarian coordinator of Somalia, funding was announced at the most critical time where early response was most required to save lives and livelihoods from the effects of deteriorating drought. The funding was critical to fill gaps and bolster ongoing humanitarian responses in the face of resource shortfalls. Funding also has an important multiplier effect, acting as a catalyst for further action. As such, Fund allocations attract additional funding and enable partners to jump-start humanitarian operations. A total of 94 per cent of resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators noted that Fund allocations in 2021 had helped to improve resource mobilization from other sources. The assessment shows an overall increase from 2020 in resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators assessing that funding adds strategic value in the above-mentioned areas.

## **V. Management and administration of the Fund**

### **A. Central Emergency Response Fund Advisory Group**

36. The Advisory Group was established following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 60/124 to advise the Secretary-General, through the Emergency Relief Coordinator, on the use and impact of the Fund. The Advisory Group members also played a significant role as advocates for the Fund in 2022. In 2022, as part of the regular membership rotation, the Secretary-General appointed eight new members to the Advisory Group. Membership selection procedures are designed to ensure gender and geographic diversity among the 20 members of the Group. In 2022, one official Advisory Group meeting took place in May, while the second was rescheduled from December 2022 to January 2023, owing to scheduling challenges. An induction meeting for new members was also held in January 2023.

37. During its official meetings in May 2022 and January 2023, the Advisory Group commended the Fund for its increasingly central role in supporting the humanitarian system's ability to respond rapidly to the growing needs. The Advisory Group expressed continued commitment to the Fund's efforts to promote positive change in the humanitarian system through its innovative and catalytic approach, and reiterated its support for its anticipatory action efforts, encouraging a further mainstreaming of this agenda. The Group commended the Fund for its efforts to drive reform across the humanitarian system and reiterated the importance of ensuring strategic and prioritized use of the Fund, capitalizing on its comparative advantages. The Emergency Relief Coordinator stressed that climate-related crises are increasingly

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<sup>5</sup> Due to the nature of the Fund reporting cycle, the complete set of resident and humanitarian coordinator assessments only become available a full year after the calendar year under review.

<sup>6</sup> From reports on funding allocated in 2021.

driving humanitarian needs, and thereby further widening the gap between needs and the capacity to respond. In that regard, the Emergency Relief Coordinator noted that the Fund fills an important niche in climate crisis response, with more than one quarter of all its funding historically provided in response to climate-related disasters. The Advisory Group raised several key points to help guide the Fund's positioning in climate-disaster response.

## **B. Transparency**

38. During 2022, the Fund continued to enhance its transparency and accountability. Grant decisions are available in real time on the Fund's website and on several other platforms, including the Financial Tracking Service, the Humanitarian Data Exchange and the International Aid Transparency Initiative. In 2022, the Fund's transparency score on the International Aid Transparency Initiative platform remained at 95 per cent, placing the Fund among the top 10 of the 1,500 entities publishing their data following International Aid Transparency Initiative standards.<sup>7</sup>

39. In 2022, the Fund and the country-based pooled funds made significant progress in the development of the OneGMS platform, which is planned for roll-out during 2023. The system standardizes real-time data published across the pooled funds data hubs. OneGMS also helps to harmonize aspects of grants management processes and grants proposal formats. The Fund continued to refine its online management and transparency tools. These include an online allocation tracker that provides real-time information on each allocation, including the trigger for funding and the assistance provided. The tool provides stakeholders with the option of receiving email notifications of new allocations as soon as these are decided.

40. The Fund and the country-based pooled funds further developed their data hubs, which provide a wide array of interactive visuals, allowing stakeholders easy access to data on how funding has been allocated across global humanitarian operations since the inception of the Fund in 2005. The Pooled Funds Data Hub serves as a one-stop data visualization platform providing data on allocations by the Fund and the country-based pooled funds, and donor contributions. The hub also offers historical information on allocations and makes it possible to view funding flows by region, country, partner, donor and project. In 2022, country profile pages were added to the hub, offering country-level summaries of historical funding by the Fund and the country-based pooled funds, as well as real-time charts and other visualizations. These data hubs complement the allocation data already available through the Fund's website.

## **C. Risk management**

41. The Fund continued to track and communicate information related to cases of potential fraud involving its funds in 2022. In keeping with its communication guidelines and standard operating procedures, the Fund secretariat continued to liaise with United Nations partners, the Fund's Advisory Group and donors regarding potential fraud cases.

42. In 2022, partners provided updates on investigations into nine previously reported cases of possible fraudulent use of funds under projects using a Fund grant. Evidence gathered during recipient entity-led investigations showed that, in three of

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<sup>7</sup> The overall score is a composite of the ratings for timeliness, the extent to which data are forward looking and comprehensiveness. See [http://publishingstats.iatistandard.org/summary\\_stats.html](http://publishingstats.iatistandard.org/summary_stats.html).

the nine cases, the allegations could not be substantiated, and the cases were closed. In three of the nine cases, the allegations were substantiated, and partners were requested and received a full refund from the implicated parties. For the three remaining cases, investigations are ongoing. Five new cases were reported by partners in 2022, one of which was closed because the allegations could not be substantiated.

#### **D. Independent reviews commissioned by the Fund**

43. To provide the Emergency Relief Coordinator and Fund stakeholders with assurance of the impact of the Fund, its secretariat commissions annual independent reviews of the contribution of the Fund to the humanitarian response in selected countries or thematic areas. The reviews are important stocktaking exercises for the Fund, helping to identify best practices, lessons learned and areas for improvement. They also provide relevant input for the broader humanitarian community by informing of lessons learned through Fund allocations.

44. In 2022, the Fund's secretariat initiated a study to review the added value of an envelope for disability programming included in the Fund's second 2021 underfunded emergencies allocation round. As part of that round, a dedicated \$10 million envelope was included for seven countries<sup>8</sup> to address foundational issues and advance programming for persons with disabilities. The main objective of the review is to generate learning from the disability envelope. The review also aims to identify best practices and potential challenges that will help generate learning to inform disability inclusion in humanitarian assistance. The review will be completed in the third quarter of 2023.

45. In 2022, the Fund continued to follow up on the recommendations of the pooled fund contact groups on gender and disability inclusion established the previous year. This will require supporting actions, such as strengthened peer-to-peer learning to promote best practice and generate innovation.

## **VI. Funding levels and donor base of the Fund**

### **A. Funding levels**

46. As the gap between global humanitarian needs and available resources continues to expand, it is critical that the Fund reach the \$1 billion annual target endorsed by the General Assembly in 2016 to ensure that assistance is provided to those in need in an effective and coordinated manner. The Fund remains one of the fastest and most efficient ways to respond to urgent humanitarian needs and is a key global instrument for all Member States to demonstrate their solidarity with countries affected by crises.

47. In 2022, the Fund's annual funding reached \$611.9 million, the fourth highest amount in its 17-year history. Despite the volatile economic situation following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fund's existing donors remained steady in their support, and several donors increased their funding. The 2022 contributions would have surpassed the \$638.3 million received in 2021 had it not been for a loss equivalent to approximately \$58 million resulting from unfavourable exchange rates. The largest contributions were from Germany, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Norway. During the year, 17 Member States increased their annual contribution from 2021, including Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Guyana, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Monaco, Mongolia,

<sup>8</sup> Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Norway, Peru, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland and Viet Nam. Fifteen countries provided contributions in addition to their initial pledges, including Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland and Viet Nam (see more details in annex III).

48. In 2022, the Fund held multi-year agreements with 16 donors at a total annual value of more than \$408 million, accounting for 67 per cent of the overall annual income. The Fund also received \$243.3 million, or nearly 40 per cent of the overall annual income, by the first quarter of the year. This is an improvement compared with payments received in the same period in 2021 (\$208.3 million) and 2020 (\$184.6 million).

## **B. Diversifying and deepening the donor base**

49. Since its inception in 2005, 131 Member States as well as observers and regional and local authorities have contributed to the Fund. In 2022, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs engaged in fundraising activities to sustain, deepen and diversify the donor base of the Fund. This included targeted advocacy to irregular donors, for instance through a briefing on the Fund given in November 2022 to the Group of 77, and collaboration with the members of the Fund's Advisory Group to conduct advocacy to both contributing and non-contributing Member States via bilateral and multilateral channels. The Office also regularly organized communication initiatives to promote the visibility of the Fund and its donors, and to raise awareness of the Fund's added value to prospective donors.

50. In 2022, 58 Member States and observers, three regional authorities and numerous private donors contributed to the Fund (see annex V). This included 12 Member States that returned as donors, including Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Cyprus, Kuwait, Lithuania, Nigeria, Poland, Romania and the United States of America. Kyrgyzstan and Mauritius contributed to the Fund for the first time. In solidarity with crisis-affected people in other parts of the world, 13 past recipients of Fund allocations contributed to the Fund in 2022. Since its inception, 56 Member States who have benefitted from Fund support have contributed to the Fund. Beyond Member States, corporations, funds and campaigns contributed \$1.9 million, and individual private donations amounted to \$70,000, a 15-fold increase from 2021.

51. A large portion of the Fund's income continued to rely on a small group of donors. The top 10 donors accounted for 86 per cent of the Fund's annual income in 2022.

52. To reach the \$1 billion annual funding target, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs continues to urge all Member States, observers, regional authorities and private donors to provide new, additional and sustained contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, in compliance with General Assembly resolution [71/127](#).

## Annex I

### Total grants allocated from the Central Emergency Response Fund, 1 January to 31 December 2022

(United States dollars)

<i>Country, territory or area</i>	<i>Rapid response window</i>	<i>Underfunded emergencies window</i>	<i>Total</i>
Afghanistan	10 000 000	–	10 000 000
Algeria	–	3 000 120	3 000 120
Angola	–	6 000 000	6 000 000
Bangladesh	5 000 013	9 000 000	14 000 013
Burkina Faso	6 000 039	10 122 089	16 122 128
Burundi	4 501 007	–	4 501 007
Cameroon	1 720 495	6 000 109	7 720 604
Central African Republic	15 000 495	–	15 000 495
Chad	23 000 459	9 999 375	32 999 834
Colombia	5 005 369	–	5 005 369
Cuba	7 827 734	–	7 827 734
Democratic Republic of the Congo	27 750 758	23 007 509	50 758 267
Djibouti	2 001 741	–	2 001 741
Eritrea	4 007 829	–	4 007 829
Ethiopia	26 003 208	–	26 003 208
Gambia	1 001 643	–	1 001 643
Haiti	12 038 557	7 957 886	19 996 443
Honduras	–	4 994 779	4 994 779
Kenya	4 000 000	6 000 001	10 000 001
Kyrgyzstan	1 010 290	–	1 010 290
Lebanon	5 000 000	8 002 513	13 002 513
Madagascar	4 480 519	7 059 596	11 540 115
Malawi	3 999 997	–	3 999 997
Mali	21 999 994	7 000 009	29 000 003
Mauritania	4 000 001	–	4 000 001
Mozambique	8 907 877	4 999 997	13 907 874
Myanmar	–	22 003 571	22 003 571
Nepal	3 186 691	–	3 186 691
Niger	17 513 801	9 998 659	27 512 460
Nigeria	20 493 668	10 000 000	30 493 668
Pakistan	10 071 433	–	10 071 433
Somalia	48 003 069	–	48 003 069
South Sudan	40 006 259	13 999 464	54 005 723
Sri Lanka	4 999 988	–	4 999 988
Sudan	26 001 705	19 945 752	45 947 457
Syrian Arab Republic	–	24 976 355	24 976 355
Tonga	1 000 600	–	1 000 600
Uganda	7 000 000	8 000 000	15 000 000
Ukraine	60 503 889	–	60 503 889

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<i>Country, territory or area</i>	<i>Rapid response window</i>	<i>Underfunded emergencies window</i>	<i>Total</i>
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	–	7 999 999	7 999 999
Yemen	39 998 013	20 033 355	60 031 368
Zimbabwe	1 508 647	–	1 508 647
<b>Total</b>	<b>484 545 788</b>	<b>250 101 138</b>	<b>734 646 926</b>

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## Annex II

**A. Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: statement of financial performance from 1 January to 31 December 2022<sup>a</sup>**

(United States dollars)

<b>Revenue</b>	
Voluntary contributions <sup>b</sup>	469 854 630
Other transfers and allocations	1 647 419
Investment revenue <sup>c</sup>	1 618 820
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>473 120 869</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Grants and other transfers	678 727 588
Other operating expenses <sup>d</sup>	101 875 328
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>780 602 916</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<b>(307 482 047)</b>

**B. Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: statement of changes in net assets from 1 January to 31 December 2022<sup>a</sup>**

(United States dollars)

	<i>Net assets</i>
<b>Net assets as at 31 December 2021</b>	<b>1 355 180 183</b>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(307 482 047)
<b>Total changes in net assets</b>	<b>(307 482 047)</b>
<b>Net assets as at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>1 047 698 136</b>

<sup>a</sup> Statements were prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

<sup>b</sup> Represents voluntary contributions in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

<sup>c</sup> Includes net investment revenue of \$228,707 earned on the loan component of Central Emergency Response Fund in accordance with General Assembly resolution [66/119](#).

<sup>d</sup> Includes programme support costs (United Nations) of \$12,819,039 and foreign exchange loss of \$89,028,864.

## Annex III

### Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: contributions for the year 2022

(United States dollars)

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Pledged and received contributions<sup>a</sup></i>
<b>Member States and observers</b>	
Andorra	10 334
Australia	8 005 789
Austria	2 020 270
Azerbaijan	20 000
Bangladesh	25 000
Belgium	19 402 100
Bhutan	1 500
Brazil	125 000
Bulgaria	65 181
Cambodia	30 000
Canada	22 893 630
China	450 000
Croatia	30 000
Cyprus	100 000
Czechia	222 311
Denmark	30 863 841
Estonia	181 995
Finland	16 498 300
France	8 928 571
Germany	146 376 000
Guyana	3 000
Iceland	2 028 664
Ireland	17 264 180
Italy	17 514 815
Japan	123 148
Kuwait	1 000 000
Kyrgyzstan	500
Liechtenstein	201 349
Lithuania	112 940
Luxembourg	5 541 000
Mauritius	5 000
Monaco	263 985
Mongolia	160 000
Montenegro	3 521
Morocco	100 000
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	80 627 000

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Pledged and received contributions<sup>a</sup></i>
New Zealand	1 864 500
Nigeria	100 000
Norway	53 873 844
Peru	5 042
Philippines	50 000
Poland	248 024
Portugal	230 498
Qatar	1 000 000
Republic of Korea	6 000 000
Romania	97 310
Russian Federation	3 500 000
Singapore	50 000
Slovenia	49 470
Spain	2 585 315
Sweden	74 796 371
Switzerland	5 978 182
Thailand	20 000
Türkiye	450 000
Turkmenistan	100 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	61 412 832
United States of America	15 000 000
Viet Nam	110 000
<b>Total, Member States and observers</b>	<b>608 720 312</b>
<b>Regional and local authorities</b>	
Basque Agency for Development Cooperation (Spain)	210 296
Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (Spain)	304 766
Government of Flanders (Belgium)	652 440
<b>Total, regional and local authorities</b>	<b>1 167 502</b>
<b>Others</b>	
ByteDance/TikTok	1 000 000
Stripe, Ireland (UNF)	567 750
Yoko Ono/Cultural Institute of Radical Contemporary Arts fundraiser	355 320
Private donations through the United Nations Foundation (under \$10,000)	69 669
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund	10 000
Private donations outside the United Nations Foundation (under \$10,000)	320
<b>Total, others</b>	<b>2 003 059</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>611 890 873</b>

<sup>a</sup> Contributions are actual amounts received, including certain unpaid pledges, for the year pledged by the donors and differ from the amount reported as revenue under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

## Annex IV

**Central Emergency Response Fund loan element: statement of changes in net assets from 1 January to 31 December 2022<sup>a</sup>**

(United States dollars)

	<i>Net assets</i>
<b>Net assets as at 31 December 2021<sup>b</sup></b>	30 000 000
<b>Change in net assets</b>	
Surplus for the year <sup>c</sup>	–
<b>Total changes in net assets</b>	–
<b>Net assets as at 31 December 2022<sup>b,d</sup></b>	<b>30 000 000</b>

<sup>a</sup> Statements were prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

<sup>b</sup> Net asset of loan is set at \$30 million in accordance with General Assembly resolution [66/119](#).

<sup>c</sup> Net investment revenue of \$228,707 was reflected in the grant element of Central Emergency Response Fund in accordance with General Assembly resolution [66/119](#).

<sup>d</sup> Comprises an outstanding loan of \$30 million.

## Annex V

## Central Emergency Response Fund loans from 1 January to 31 December 2022

(United States dollars)

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Country, territory or region</i>	<i>Year of disbursement</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>Outstanding loans as at 1 January 2022</b>			
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: Critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2021	28 000 000
<b>Total</b>			<b>28 000 000</b>
<b>Loans disbursed from 1 January to 31 December 2022</b>			
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2022	17 000 000
FAO	To provide emergency support to improve crop production in Tigray region, Ethiopia	2022	10 000 000
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2022	20 000 000
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2022	10 000 000
<b>Total</b>			<b>57 000 000</b>
<b>Loans repaid from 1 January to 31 December 2022</b>			
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2021	28 000 000
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2022	17 000 000
FAO	To provide emergency support to improve crop production in Tigray region, Ethiopia	2022	10 000 000
<b>Total</b>			<b>55 000 000</b>
<b>Outstanding loans as at 31 December 2022</b>			
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2022	20 000 000
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip and West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem), Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic: critical and life-saving services, covering food needs for Palestine refugees	2022	10 000 000
<b>Total</b>			<b>30 000 000</b>

*Abbreviations:* FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; UNRWA, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.